

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND

## China Overland Trade Report.

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### BIRTH.

At East Point, on the 19th December, the wife of A. C. MORE of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

At Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, on the 8th December, 1899, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, REGINALD H. D. SANDERSON, B.N.R., son of the Rev. CANON SANDERSON, late of Burgh, Lincoln, to ETHEL CONSTANCE EDWARDS, daughter of the late Rev. Canon EDWARDS, Llandevand, Monmouthshire.

On the 8th December, 1899, at the Danish Consulate and afterwards at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., KNUD HERLUF VON LINDHOLM, youngest son of the late William VON LINDHOLM, of Copenhagen, Colonel of Dragons, Chamberlain to H.M. the King of Denmark, to MARY ANNETTE, eldest daughter of the late George Penkenil SLADE, of Sydney, New South Wales, and of Mrs. SLADE, of 38, Holland Park, London, W.

### DEATHS.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 10th December, 1899, JOSEPH BRUNE, aged 54 years.

At the Cosmopolitan Docks, on the 15th instant, GEO. MANUEL UNWIN, aged 22, eldest son of Mr. F. UNWIN, Commissioner I. M. Customs.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The American mail of the 17th November arrived, per O. & O steamer *Doric*, on the 16th December (29 days); and the French mail of the 17th November arrived, per M. M. steamer *Caledonien*, on the 19th December (32 days).

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Tan Chung-lin, Viceroy of the Two Kwang' has been recalled and Li Hung-chang has been appointed to succeed him.

Capt. Strout and a guard of twenty-five marines arrived at Tientsin from Weihaiwei on the 4th December and will remain there through the winter.

News was received on Sunday of the death of Commander E. P. Wood, U.S.N., of typhoid fever, in New York. He was captain of the *Petrel* at the battle of Manila Bay.

The South African fund being raised in Hongkong now amounts, with contributions from the Southern Treaty Ports, to about \$70,000. At Singapore a vote of \$50,000 for the same object has been made by the Legislative Council. In Hongkong there has as yet been no official vote, the \$70,000 mentioned having been contributed entirely by the public.

It has been reported in mandarin circles at Shanghai, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, that the British and foreign Ministers at Peking had signified to H. E. S'eng their willingness to grant Tariff Revision provided a Financial Board, with joint foreign and Chinese representation, is established to control the expenditure of the extra revenue collected.

The loss is reported of the British tank steamer *St. Helens*. While on a voyage from Hongkong to Singapore she struck the Bombay Rock in the Paracels on the 14th November. The crew remained by the ship until the 27th, when, seeing that she was going to pieces, they left, and, with the exception of five Chinese who were lost, reached Cape St. James after fifteen days of terrible suffering in the boats.

It was freely reported among Chinese officials at Shanghai, we learn from the *N. C. Daily News*, that Li Ping-heng, the newly-appointed High Commissioner of the Yangtze, has denounced Marshal Su for giving up Naotos island and its dependencies in Kwangchowwan to the French, and that the Empress Dowager has been persuaded by Li Ping-heng to remove Marshal Su from his post of Commissioner of Delimitation and order him to await investigation into his conduct.

A Havas telegram states that the French Government will shortly introduce a scheme for the laying of cables connecting France and her colonies. The subject as affecting Indo-China has for some time past been engaging the attention of the local papers and representative bodies in that colony and a recommendation has been made for the laying of a cable to connect Indo-China with the Great Northern cable at Amoy, avoiding Hongkong, and thus giving through communication by the Russian and Great Northern systems without touching British territory.

A telegram from Manila to the *Daily Press* reports that Major-General Lawton, commanding the First Division Corps of the American army operating in Luzon, was killed on the 19th December in an attack on San Mateo, eighteen miles from Manila, by sharpshooters who opened fire from across the river. This regrettable incident shows that the Insurgents are still active in parts, but on the whole their cause is in a bad way. The Americans have occupied Aparri without bloodshed. The U.S.S. *Newark* landed marines and accepted the surrender of the Insurgent Commander, Tirona, who thus surrendered the entire northern district of Luzon, embracing the tobacco lands and plantations. The U.S.S. *Wheeling* has gone down the eastern Pacific coast of Luzon to demand the surrender of the port there. General G. Pilar, brother of P. O. Pilar, has been killed by his own people.

The arrival of the U.S.S. *Brooklyn* at Singapore was closely followed by that of the cruiser *New Orleans*, which reached that port on the 19th inst from New York, touching at Colombo on her way. She is commanded by Captain Edwin Longneck, and her crew numbers 342 men all told. She is a vessel of 3,437 tons; and her engines, which indicate 7,500 h.p., give her a speed of 20 knots an hour. Her principal armament consists of six 6-inch quickfiring, four 4.7-inch guns, and ten 6-pounders. A Ceylon contemporary remarks:—A considerable number of U.S.A. warships, principally cruisers and gunboats, are to pass through on the way to the Philippines and we learn that arrangements are being made to despatch these vessels at once. This is being done in consequence of a decision to strengthen the Naval squadron in the quarter indicated, and also to completely and effectively patrol the islands so as to prevent any outside supplies reaching the insurgents. At present there is a fairly effective patrol carried on by the mosquito fleet in those waters, the captured Spanish vessels *Isla de Cuba*, *Isla de Luzon*, *Don Juan de Austria*, and the *Callao*, which have been repaired, being used to great advantage with the smaller American vessels, but the service will be much better maintained with the additions about to be made.

Mr. Kent, the third officer of the N.Y.K. steamer *Tamba Maru*, has been sentenced at Yokohama to six months' rigorous imprisonment for assaulting a quartermaster. Mr. Kent has appealed. In an article on the case the *Kobe Chronicle* says:—The sentence seems to us simply atrocious in its severity, and will certainly be quoted as proof that the foreigner is likely to get a good deal more law than justice in Japan. It will be remembered that the quartermaster who brought the charge which has been thus dealt with by a Japanese Court entered Mr. Kent's room on board the ship, in consequence of some trouble that had previously occurred, and used threatening language towards the accused. Mr. Kent ordered the man, who was apparently drunk, to leave the room, and on his refusing to do so, knocked him down, whereupon the quartermaster, as the Public Prosecutor admitted, bit Mr. Kent in several places on the leg. This appears to have been all that occurred. The incident took place at Moji, and on the vessel reaching Yokohama the quartermaster laid a complaint before the Public Prosecutor, whereupon the police proceeded to arrest no less than five officers of the *Tamba Maru* and subjected them to the indignity of incarceration for some hours in a police cell. Eventually Mr. Kent was the only one against whom the charge was pressed, and after many delays—Mr. Kent was arrested on October 10th—the accused has been tried and sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour! It seems to us that under the circumstances of this case such a sentence is nothing else than a miscarriage of justice, which, it is to be hoped, will have the prompt attention of the British Minister. It is impossible not to compare it with the sentences passed on Japanese charged with unprovoked assaults upon foreigners from time to time,—and the assault in this case, whether or not justified in self defence, was certainly not unprovoked,—while, even if it should be reversed on appeal, the sentence cannot but have a most evil effect on the discipline on board Japanese vessels, regarding which so many complaints are made.



## THE SANITARY BOARD ELECTION.

(Daily Press, 22nd December.)

That the public should not have evinced greater interest in the election of two members of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday is to be regretted, certainly, but there is no occasion for hysterical raving against the Government nor for confessing any surrender of the principle of representative institutions. The election did not cause any excitement, because the two vacant seats were uncontested and because at the present moment there is no point in the conduct or policy of the Sanitary Board against which the public have any occasion to make a demonstration. The situation will, we hope, be looked at from a common sense business point of view, with an avoidance of rhodomontade. The subject divides itself into two branches, first, the question of the ratepayers' right of representation, as a matter of principle, and, second, the practical question of sanitation.

With regard to the question of the right of representation, the ratepayers have successfully repulsed the attack made upon their position by the Colonial Secretary, but have been unable to make any advance. The Colonial Secretary wanted to shut up the Sanitary Board altogether, or at least to deprive it of its representative character. How strongly the public felt upon that point was shown when a plebiscite was taken. The fact that the election on Tuesday was unattended with any excitement is no evidence that the public holds the principle of popular representation of less account now than it did then. Parliamentary elections in English boroughs or counties sometimes are uncontested and fail to produce excitement, but that fact could not be cited as an argument in support of the proposition that the electors set no store by their privileges. But the Hongkong ratepayers wanted a fuller measure of representation than that which they previously possessed and which has now been restored to them, and it has been suggested that, because they have been unsuccessful in obtaining what they wanted they refrained from taking part in the election out of pique and disgust. Any one who has allowed himself to be influenced by feelings of that kind has been unwise. As well might General Buller retire in disgust because he failed to carry the passage of the Tugela River at the first attempt. The great body of the ratepayers of Hongkong are in no mind, we think, to "chuck"—(if we may be excused the vulgarism)—the struggle on which they have entered, even though the recognised leaders failed to make a better display at Tuesday's meeting. The display, we may mention, would have been even worse than it was had it not been for the Hon. J. H. WHITEHEAD, who seems to have been the only public man who recognised the importance of the occasion. At the eleventh hour he secured the support of the Hon. C. P. CHATER, and to both these gentlemen the community is indebted.

With reference to the influence of the Sanitary Board on the practical question of sanitation, we would enter a protest against the view expressed by the *China Mail* that the Board "does not fulfil the first object of its creation, but so long as it does no harm it may be allowed to meet and discuss sanitary questions in its old academic style—the pseudo-representative members regularly out-voted by the officials on all important matters of policy or vetoed by the all-powerful Government if they should, by any chance, secure a snap victory." That is

wrong from beginning to end, wrong both in sentiment and fact. The Sanitary Board does fulfil the first object of its creation, the pseudo-representative members are not regularly out-voted by the officials on all important matters of policy, nor are they regularly vetoed by the all powerful Government should they secure a victory. Those who hold that the Sanitary Board should be a purely official body and those who hold that it should be wholly a representative body must agree on the fact that the work actually accomplished by the Board, especially since it was stirred up by the plague, has been very good both in quantity and quality. The question is sometimes asked why the papers should fill up their columns with reports of Legislative Council and Sanitary Board meetings, which, as it is said, nobody cares to read. Well, some people read their papers merely for entertainment, while others set the utilitarian element first. Those who read the papers only for entertainment will naturally omit the reports of the Sanitary Board and therefore cannot be expected to know what it has done or what it has not done. But, on the other hand, those who take a direct and personal interest in the affairs of the colony and make a point of keeping themselves informed on public questions cannot have failed to note the large amount of work performed by the Board, including personal inspections of the slums and other committee work that must make heavy demands on the time of the members. The debates, too, show the keen interest the members take in the subject of sanitation and are of an order that would not discredit similar bodies in the large cities of the United Kingdom. As to what has actually been accomplished, we need only point to the cleanliness of the city to-day and compare it with the state of affairs that existed six years ago and to the diminution of the death-rate. That is a simple matter of evidence that any plain man can weigh for himself, and if he takes the trouble to do so his verdict will be that the evidence fully justifies the existence of the Sanitary Board. That the Board might accomplish more if the representative element entered more largely into its composition and if its powers were enlarged affords no justification for the statement that the Board as it has hitherto existed has been useless.

We come now to the question of the official element. While advocating the principle of popular representation, we have no desire to advance that principle by bearing false witness against our neighbours the officials. In the Sanitary Board there has happily never been any line of cleavage between the official and unofficial members and the officials have never had instructions from the Government as to the side on which they were to cast their votes. Latterly, with only one unofficial member, the divisions that have taken place have necessarily been between the officials themselves, but even before the disruption, when the unofficial element was at its full strength, it was common in divisions to find some of the officials voting on one side and some on the other. One has only to read the discussions to see that the officials are not less progressive than the unofficials in the matter of sanitation. The Hon. F. H. MAY is an enthusiast on the subject, and as for Dr. ATKINSON, Dr. CLARK, and the Hon. R. D. ORMBY, by no stretch of the imagination could any one accuse them of systematically obstructing sanitary improvements. Then as to the "all-power-

ful Government," under whose review the decisions of the Sanitary Board have to pass: the system of Crown Colony Government, as we all know, is bad, but the officials responsible for the administration of the system are actuated by a desire—as British officials usually are—to do their duty according to their lights and to the best of their ability, and they give effect to the decisions of the Sanitary Board when they are convinced the decisions are sound and practicable. Mere vituperation of the Government is to be deprecated as calculated to bring the cause of popular representation into disrepute and ridicule. To recognise things as they are will help towards securing their improvement.

Of the new members of the Sanitary Board, Dr. HARTIGAN has served before and the colony is to be congratulated on his return. He left the Board at the time of the disruption, but no good purpose could be served by his holding aloof any longer, and that he has risen superior to any feeling of pique in connection with that affair is to be counted to his credit. As to Mr. McKIE, we have no idea of what his views on sanitary questions may be, but he is himself a man of abounding vitality, and we should be inclined to think that his assistance on the Sanitary Board will prove of value as representing the practical business element.

## THE COMMAND IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(Daily Press, 20th December.)

The appointment of Lord ROBERTS to the chief command in South Africa, with Lord KITCHENER as his chief of the staff, will do much to restore public confidence in the successful issue of the military operations. This will not be Lord ROBERTS's first visit to South Africa. In his book "Forty-one Years in India," after mentioning the leave he took after the Afghanistan campaign and the celebrated march to Kandahar, he writes:—"I did not return to India until the end of 1881, six weeks out of these precious months of leave having been spent in a wild-goose chase to the Cape of Good Hope and back, upon my being nominated by Mr. GLADSTONE's Government Governor of Natal and Commander of the Forces in South Africa, on the death of Sir GEORGE COLLEY and the receipt of the news of the disaster at Majuba Hill. While I was on my way out to take up my command, peace was made with the Boers in the most marvelously rapid and unexpected manner. A peace, alas! without honour, to which may be attributed the recent regrettable state of affairs in the Transvaal—a state of affairs which was foreseen and predicted by many at the time. My stay at Cape Town was limited to twenty-four hours, the Government being apparently as anxious to get me away from Africa as they had been to hurry me out there." Lord ROBERTS is now to be afforded the opportunity of establishing "peace with honour" if he can: the whole resources of the Empire are placed at his disposal, and he is supported by the affectionate and admiring gratitude of the nation for his distinguished services in the past, coupled with a deep sympathy for him in the sad circumstances under which he enters upon the campaign, he having just lost his only son by wounds received in the war. That he may be able to add fresh laurels to his distinguished record and have the honour of extricating his country from the greatest difficulty in which she has found herself during the century will be



the prayer of the whole British nation, and high confidence in the fulfilment of the wish will be entertained.

And yet, there is such a thing as expecting too much from any one man. There comes, too, a time in the life of every one when he can no longer be expected to repeat the successes of his youth. Far be it from us to suggest that any decline of Lord ROBERTS's vigour or alertness has commenced, but ordinarily a man of sixty-seven is not quite the man he was when he was twenty years younger. In this connection Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's words at the banquet given to him by the Hongkong branch of the Navy League may be recalled. His Lordship was speaking of the Navy, and of the greater responsibility thrown on the commander now than in the old days before the introduction of the electric button, and he said:—"No matter how good a man may be he is liable to make a mistake. Therefore you want us commanders men of excellent nerve, men of excellent training, and you want younger men. A man may think he is as good at fifty or at forty-five as at forty, but he is nothing of the sort. He may be very good for administrative purposes, but for executive purposes you want young men who don't fear consequences, who go straight ahead. You must have some sort of caution, some sense of proportion, but when you get to a certain age you know too much." It has been our misfortune not to be able to say ditto to all Lord CHARLES BERESFORD's utterances with the enthusiasm his admirers seem to think his due; but his view as to the age of an officer's greatest efficacy possesses at least some claim to consideration. It is not a subject, however, on which any hard and fast rule can be laid down for application in individual cases. Medical books contain records of deaths from senility occurring before the age of twenty, while in other cases vitality continues in its full power to an extreme old age. Generally speaking, however, men verging on the allotted span of three score years and ten are not expected to possess the vigour, either mental or physical, of younger men.

The great victories of history have been achieved by comparatively young men. MARLBOROUGH was fifty-four when he fought the battle of Blenheim; WELLINGTON fought the battle of Waterloo when he was forty-six; and NELSON was forty-seven when he met his glorious death at the battle of Trafalgar. We trust our misgivings may prove unwarranted, but we cannot help feeling that the conduct of the South African war is a very heavy burden to lay upon a man of Lord ROBERTS's age. He has as his chief of staff, however, Lord KITCHENER, who is in his fiftieth year and in the very prime of his military career. In Lord ROBERTS's caution and Lord KITCHENER's dash it is possible we may find the very combination called for by the circumstances of a war waged under conditions that are new to our army. Both men are soldiers of the highest type, and will approach their work in the spirit of NELSON, who, having made his dispositions for the battle of Trafalgar, and hoisted the memorable signal "England expects every man to do his duty," said:—"Now I can do no more. We must trust to the great disposer of events and the justice of our cause. I thank God for this great opportunity of doing my duty."

It is said that \$2,500 will be sufficient to repair the recent damage to the Raub Company's dam at Bukit Koman.

## RIFLE RANGES WANTED.

(Daily Press, 18th December.)

Some weeks ago, before the news from South Africa had become so grave as it has been recently, it was beginning to be asked whether, looking at the present experience, the British army was equal to the national needs. Lieutenant-Colonel Sir WOLFE-BARRY, of the Engineer and Railroad Volunteer Corps staff, was reported as saying: "In military matters, Great Britain is trading with insufficient capital. She ought to add 100,000 men to her army." GEORGE BAIRD SHAW, the author, in an ironic mood asks how "Tommy Atkins" can be expected to shoot as well as the Boers "when the nation begrudges the money to enable him to practice." The latter question has a local application, to which we would invite the earnest attention of the public and the authorities. With news of disaster upon disaster coming from South Africa, where the enemy show themselves superior to us both in strategy and marksmanship, it is disgusting—we can use no milder term—to learn that in an important garrison like that of Hongkong rifle practice is virtually suspended owing to the want of ranges. It is possible that our gallant friends the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Welch Fusiliers may some day before the war is ended find themselves ordered to South Africa, and if so we may be sure that they will stand up bravely to the enemy, but to ask them to do so without giving them any chance beforehand to keep up their efficiency in marksmanship would be little better than murder. Our attention was drawn to this subject a few days ago and we were making enquiries concerning it when the last issue of the *Volunteer Gazette* came to hand with a timely article showing how the matter stands. Availing ourselves of our contemporary's general invitation to quote from its columns anything of public interest we reproduce the substance of the article in question, and would suggest that one of the unofficial members should endeavour to elicit an official explanation by a question in Council. The neglect to provide proper ranges is criminal and the parties responsible ought to be visited with severe punishment, if the responsibility can be fixed. The *Volunteer Gazette* says:—"At the present moment and for the last few months no range has been at the disposal of the Volunteers for practice, and we have heard incidentally that recent negotiations to procure one have proved abortive. H.E. the Honorary Colonel and H.E. the General on the frequent occasions on which they have addressed the Corps have used these words:—'Unless you learn to shoot you are no use to us and we will have to disband you'—yet here we are without the slightest opportunity of becoming marksmen. True we get a shot at Stonecutters' now and again, and the best shots of the Corps get practice at the Rifle Association Ranges, but it is the middling shot who has to be brought forward and to get practice. The Volunteer case is bad enough, but we hear that the regulars are just as badly off—in fact there is no chance for practice unless"—Here our contemporary advances a facetious suggestion that practice might be got by shooting stray dogs. No doubt there will be found people irreverent enough to cap that suggestion by another to the effect that a few high officials might be practised upon without much loss to the public. Any wilful neglect that impairs the efficiency of the army as a whole or that of any unit in parti-

cular merits reprobation. At a time like the present, when our army finds itself outmanned by a mob of Boer farmers, the reprobation may be expressed in more forcible terms than might suggest themselves in the piping times of peace. It is said that the difficulty is the provision of some \$7,000 to \$10,000 to equip the range. As our contemporary remarks, "All we can say is that if the Secretary of State for the Colonies does not pass a vote like this after his experience in South Africa, then it is time to climb down all over the place."

## HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Thursday afternoon a meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

His EXCELLENCY the GOVERNOR (Sir Henry BLAKE, G.C.M.G.).  
His EXCELLENCY Major-General GASCOIGNE, C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).  
The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOOKHART, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).  
Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).  
Hon. R. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).  
Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).  
Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).  
Hon. R. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).  
Hon. C. P. CHAPTER, C.M.G.  
Hon. Dr. HO KAI.  
Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.  
Hon. WEI A YUK.  
Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

### PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table correspondence with reference to the services of the Volunteer Corps in connection with the occupation of the New Territory.

### FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minute No 28 and proposed that it be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table report of the Finance Committee No. 12 and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

### THE PIERS ORDINANCE.

A Bill entitled the Piers Ordinance, 1899, was read a first time, on the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

### THE COMPANIES' ORDINANCE.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Companies' Ordinance, 1877, was read a second time.

### DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, 1873. Honourable members will see the object of clause 2 of this Bill is to include in the definition of dangerous goods, certain goods which are not specified in section 5 of Ordinance 8 of 1873, which it seems desirable to treat as dangerous goods. Since this Bill has been before the Council certain suggestions have been made by the Chamber of Commerce with reference to the definition of dangerous goods contained in this Bill, and in consequence of these suggestions I propose to move certain amendments to clause 2 of this Bill in committee. Those amendments have been circulated to honourable members, and I think they will meet with the views of the Chamber of Commerce. With regard to clause 3 of the Bill the object of that clause is to except lubricating oils and high test petroleum tar or petroleum fuel from the operation of sections 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16 of Ordinance 8 of 1873 and from the operation of any bye-laws, etc., relating to the movement or



storage of dangerous goods which have been heretofore made, and from any bye-laws relating to dangerous goods which may hereafter be made unless such special classes of goods are expressly mentioned in such bye-laws, etc. By that means such special classes of dangerous goods will be exempted from the severe tests which have been hitherto applicable to them in common with all other dangerous goods. At the same time, however, it appears desirable, looking to dangers which might arise from the mixing of low flash oil with the high test oil, to retain the power of making bye-laws for the movement of and conditions for the storage of such special classes of goods, instead of exempting them altogether from all the liabilities attaching to dangerous goods." As honourable members will see from the amendments which have been circulated, I shall have a few verbal amendments to suggest to clause 3 of the Bill in committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council then went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

The following proposed amendments were adopted:—

That in the seventh line of clause 2 of the Bill, the words "other than safety fuzes," be inserted after the word "fuzes;" and

That in the ninth line of clause 2 of the Bill, the words "other than percussion caps or priming caps or empty sporting cases" be inserted after the words "ammunition of all descriptions;"

That in the fourteenth line of clause 3 of the Bill, the words "Ordinance 8 of 1873 or Ordinance 8 of 1892," be substituted in place of the words "any Ordinance;" and

That a new clause be added to the Bill, to be numbered clause 4, and that such new clause run as follows:—"The provisions of section 11 of Ordinance 8 of 1873 shall not apply to any goods the storage of which is provided for by any other Ordinance."

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—The object of the new clause is to make the provisions of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance with regard to storage not apply to goods the storage of which is specially provided for by other Ordinances. I may mention that in the Merchant Shipping Ordinance there is a special provision made for the storage of certain goods which would come under the term dangerous goods, and I do not propose by this Bill to interfere with these special provisions, and that is the reason why I propose that clause 4 be included in the Bill.

The Bill passed through Committee and the Council resumed.

#### THE SUMMONING OF CHINESE BEFORE THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to provide for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar-General. This Bill is for the summoning of Chinese before the Registrar-General to give information regarding any matter in which the Registrar-General is directed by the Governor to enquire. The reason for this Bill is that it is necessary that the Registrar-General should have power to summon before him any Chinese whom he desires to question upon any matter of importance connected with the New Territories and affecting the Chinese. At present there is no power for the Registrar-General to compel the appearance before him of Chinese, and it is very desirable that he should have such power. I may mention, sir, that this Bill is framed upon similar lines to certain laws which are in operation in the Malay States. I understand from the Registrar-General that it is necessary that he should have this power to summon Chinese before him and that it would very much facilitate the government of the New Territories if such a measure as this is passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I do not intend to offer a strong opposition to the second reading of the Bill, but at the same time, Sir, I would wish to remind the Council that a Bill of this nature confers a very great power upon an official of the Government—a power which, in some respects, is not possessed even by His Excellency the Governor or by the Chief Justice. As the Bill we have before us contains certain provisions expressly affecting the Chinese and the Chinese alone, whether a British

subject or otherwise—and this makes the Bill very much more objectionable—it may be considered as class legislation, and as a general rule the Legislature regard such legislation with a great deal of disfavour and suspicion. In the present instance, I must say that in dealing with the affairs of the New Territory it may be necessary for the Registrar-General to possess such power in order effectively to carry out his functions, and for that reason I and my honourable colleague who represents with me the Chinese have thought it wise not to offer any strong opposition. Of course we are quite prepared to sacrifice a certain amount of our liberty with the object of helping the Government to carry out their policy for the good of the Chinese inhabitants of the New Territory; but at the same time I would ask Your Excellency to give instructions if this Ordinance be passed that tact and discretion should be exercised. Otherwise the Chinese will suffer a great deal, and in the case of an abuse of power I hope Your Excellency will give instructions that speedy redress shall be given. On a former occasion when a law was passed for the inspection of houses the Governor at the time (Sir William Robinson) gave the Council his word that such powers would be exercised with a great deal of tact and discretion, and that in the case of any abuse of such power he would at once direct a strict enquiry. I wish the Council also to consider whether a measure of this kind should be allowed to continue for a very long time. I think it will meet the circumstances of the case if this Ordinance is allowed to be in operation for 12 months or a definite period, and at the end of that period it may be renewed from year to year if considered necessary. Of course the New Territory in its present condition requires special legislation, but by and by when it has become enlightened and prosperous like Hongkong I see no reason why it should not be brought under the same laws as Hongkong. In an old Ordinance passed for the protection of women and children we have a precedent and an example of an enactment which is renewed from year to year, and in this case in committee I shall move that a clause be inserted limiting the operation of the measure to 12 months, at the end of which time it may be renewed if necessary.

The Hon. Wei A Yuk—I have much pleasure in endorsing the observations which have fallen from the honourable member.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I think the observations of the honourable members who have just spoken are very much to the point, and I think it is only right that not alone the Council but that the Chinese people in the New Territory should have some idea why this Bill is introduced by the Government at the present time. The condition of the New Territory is peculiar. The Chinese do not understand our ways, and we desire—I desire most heartily—to interfere with the Chinese and their customs as little as possible, but it is absolutely necessary that the land in the New Territory should be registered. Of course all members of the Council know that in the interests of the Chinese themselves it should be registered; but for some reason, probably some suspicion which I hope will be removed in the course of time, the Chinese have not been for some time as anxious to register their land as they might be, and for a considerable time we have found great difficulty in getting the Chinese to come forward and give any information about their land or about registration. It then became necessary to approach the Chinese through their elders, their leaders, for the purpose of explaining why it was necessary that land should be registered. However, on more than one occasion when these Chinese elders had been invited to come in they gave no attention whatever to the invitation. Such conduct under Chinese jurisdiction—refusing when invited by a high official to come in and assist him and give him information—would not have been tolerated for an instant. We do not propose to take the stringent measures which would have been taken had the people remained under Chinese jurisdiction, but we do wish to get the power to compel their attendance and to inflict a small fine in case they disobey the summons. As to the observations of the honourable gentleman with reference to the supervision, so to speak, of the exercise of this power, the honourable member will see

from the second clause that "The Governor may at any time direct the Registrar-General to enquire into and report as to any matter which is connected with the New Territories as defined by section 2 of Ordinance No. 12 of 1899, if such matter exclusively concerns persons of Chinese race, whether British subjects or otherwise." The Registrar-General will only summons Chinese to come before him in certain cases into which he is directed by the Governor to enquire. Therefore, in no case can there be any action whatever without the direction of the Governor, and I think the honourable member will accept my assurance that the Ordinance will be carried out with every consideration for the Chinese and with every anxiety on the part of the Government that we shall never be forced to bring the provisions of the Ordinance into operation at all. I think that when it is known that we have power to compel the attendance of these people who do not up to the present appear anxious to come forward the Chinese will yield gracefully to the necessity and come in when invited without our having to resort to this power. With reference to the suggestion of the honourable member that this Bill should have a duration clause, I think it is a very fair suggestion. I shall have no objection whatever to it. I hope that in a short time the necessity for any such Ordinance as this will disappear.

The Council then went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

O the suggestion of the Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, seconded by the Hon. Wei A Yuk, the following clause was added to the Bill:—"This Ordinance shall continue in operation for a period of two years from the coming into operation of this Ordinance, and for such further period or periods as may from time to time be determined by resolution of the Legislative Council."

The Bill passed through committee and the Council resumed.

#### THE ARMS AND AMMUNITION BILL.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend and consolidate the law relating to the carriage and possession of arms and ammunition.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. E. A. BELLIOS—A petition has been presented to Your Excellency by firms dealing in arms in this colony praying that they be heard by counsel in opposition to the passing of this Bill. In moving that the prayer be granted I beg Your Excellency's permission to make a few remarks. I venture, sir, to ask you kindly but finally and definitely to withdraw the Bill. It is absurdly strict in its provisions that no postponement of its consideration, no amendment of its clauses in committee, can possibly improve it. I maintain, sir, that the law now in force is already stringent enough for our purposes, and to proceed to make it still more stringent will, I am afraid, undermine the freedom of this port, the freedom upon which our prosperity mainly depends. We will be arrogating to ourselves powers we do not possess, inasmuch as such legislation will be based on the assumption that Hongkong is the only entre-pôt in China, the only gateway through which arms and ammunition could be introduced into this vast Empire on whose fringe we stand. Be it robbery and piracy are committed on the West River, miles away from this small island, we are asked to remodel our old law and thus seriously jeopardize an important branch of the trade of this colony. It is tantamount to restricting and hampering our opium trade because a few people commit suicide by eating the drug. A tendency or inclination seems recently to have developed in this Council to ferret out old laws and remodel them regardless of what the consequences may be to the interests of this colony. We seem to be elated with our surpluses and appear to think that whatever strain the progress of the colony may be subjected to our prosperity will continue uninterrupted. We must remember that there is always the proverbial last straw and that a calm generally follows a storm. If by these enactments we were to adversely affect the growth of the colony and a retrograde movement were once started, it would be difficult to retrace our steps and to undo the mischief effected. It will be remembered a few weeks ago when the Bill providing for the closing of disorderly houses was before



the Council in committee, I called your Excellency's attention to the enormous powers we were delegating to two honourable but somewhat youthful members of this Council. My advice was then unheeded. I was under the impression when passing the Bill that only disorderly houses were to be closed, but now we hear that edicts have gone forth to close indiscriminately scores of houses of ill-fame without any fault being found with them.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Is not the honourable member travelling outside the subject under discussion?

THE HON. E. R. BELLIOS—No, sir, I am coming to the point. The consequence is sheer loss to a great number of the poor inhabitants of this city. Before the Bill was introduced, owing to the enhanced rents prevailing in the centre of the town, families of limited means found cheap residences in the suburbs to the east and west of us, but now, owing to the compulsory exodus of these women to these quarters, rents have been nearly doubled, to the serious detriment of the poor families, who will now be compelled to stint or starve themselves to pay these exorbitant rents. Notwithstanding this movement rents in the central districts will be upheld by Chinese landlords, who are principally the proprietors or lessees of the houses which are being vacated. For this reason I submit, it will be advisable to let well alone and desist from making any enactments of the kind now proposed. I feel therefore compelled to sound a note of warning and beg to deprecate meddling with the present laws of the colony.

THE HON. DR. HO KAI—I beg to second the suggestion of the honourable member who has sat down. That counsel be heard on behalf of the aims dealers who have presented the petition to this Council, in accordance with section 52 of the Standing Rule and Orders.

The motion was carried.

HIS EXCELLENCY then invited Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., who was present with Mr. J. Hastings (Messrs Deacon and Hastings, solicitors) to come forward.

MR. FRANCIS then delivered an exhaustive address of about an hour's duration. A full report of his speech will appear in our issue of to-morrow.

On Mr. Francis resuming his seat, the proposition that the Bill be read a second time was put and carried.

#### THE MERCHANT SHIPPING ORDINANCE.

THE ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I now propose the third reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Merchant Shipping, the duties of the Harbour Master, the control and management of the waters of the colony and the regulation of vessels navigating the same.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Council then adjourned until Thursday next.

#### MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council meeting, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

THE CHAIRMAN said—I have one minute only to bring before the committee, and that is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$250 in aid of the vote "Maintenance of Gardens." The Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department reports expenditure that an of \$73'33 has been incurred in collecting and sending materials to England in connection with the Malarial Commission. He has been making enquiries in connection with the mosquitoes, which are supposed to be connected with the spread of malaria. He has also expended a sum of \$176'67, the cost of making a kitchen garden at Government House.

The vote was passed.

This was all the business.

On Saturday morning a Chinese boy who was in a sampan was crushed between two launches and received such injuries that he died in Hospital shortly afterwards. A Chinaman who fell from a scaffold on the 7th inst. has since died.

#### SUPREME COURT.

18th December.

#### CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HON. W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE.)

#### OBTAINING GOODS BY A FORGED REQUEST.

Leung Fuk was charged with offering, uttering, disposing of, and putting off a forged request with intent to defraud. There were five other counts in the indictment. He pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. W. H. T. Davis, F. X. Remedios, J. M. M. Dourdin, H. W. Rumker, R. E. Humphreys, Angus Sinclair, and F. J. Barros.

The Acting Attorney-General (the Hon. H. E. Pollock) said the counts against prisoner in this case were six in number, and they were all of them brought under what was called the Forgery Ordinance of the Colony, Ordinance 6 of 1861. The evidence would show that prisoner went to a man called Lee On, who was a carver of chops and stamps, about nine o'clock on the morning of the 27th October, and asked him to make him a chop bearing the characters of the Ma Seung Kwai Tong shop as quickly as possible. Lee On agreed to do this, and prisoner called for it two hours afterwards. It appeared that prisoner was formerly in the employ of the Ma Seung Kwai Tong firm, but when he went to get this chop made he had already left their employment, and he got this chop made with intent to defraud. On getting the chop from Lee On prisoner took it to a man named Tsang Shu, who was evidently a confederate of his, and got him to write out three delivery orders for goods which were to be obtained from the Wong Cheung Ki shop, the Ma Seung Kwai Tong chop being affixed to the orders. Prisoner presented these orders to the Wong Cheung Ki shop on the 9th, 10th, and 12th November, pretending that they came from the Ma Seung Kwai Tong shop. On the strength of these orders certain goods were handed to him on the 9th and 10th October, but on the 12th October suspicion was aroused that the requests for goods were forged and that the Ma Seung Kwai Tong firm had not sent prisoner for the goods.

Prisoner was found guilty on all counts.

Sentence was deferred.

Tsang Shu was charged with making a request for the delivery of goods with intent to defraud. There were four other counts in the indictment. He pleaded not guilty. Prisoner was found not guilty by five of the jury against two, and was accordingly discharged.

The jury was composed as follows:—Messrs. A. W. Macpherson, F. H. A. Fuchs, L. Soultfort, E. A. da Silva, A. Rumjahn, G. A. Buckland and W. H. Gaskell.

In the afternoon Leung Fuk came up for sentence. Addressing prisoner, His Lordship said (through the interpreter)—You have been convicted on an indictment which charges you with no less than six different offences. Under the first three counts you are found guilty of uttering forged documents on three different dates and under the last three you are charged with demanding goods—and in two out of the three obtaining them—under documents which you knew to be forged. I don't suppose you have the slightest idea of the enormous gravity of your offence. The section of the Ordinance under which you have been convicted provides that the maximum punishment for one of these offences shall be penal servitude for life. It would be impossible to carry on mercantile affairs if people are to forge requests and go and order goods in this way. I have thought carefully as to what was my duty, and I am bound to say in the first place that I never met with a man who seemed to be so absolutely regardless of truth as yourself. You kept on contradicting yourself this morning, first saying one thing and then another, first swearing one thing before the Magistrate and then swearing here it was a lie. Unless you mend your ways I do not know what will be the end of you. I see you are described as only 19 in the information, and so I take your case into merciful consideration on account of your being

very young. I sentence you to three years' imprisonment with hard labour on each of the six counts, but the sentences will run concurrently, so that your sentence will be three years' hard labour altogether.

#### THE ATTEMPT TO BRIBE MR. J. DYER BALL.

An old woman named Tsoi Sam was charged with offering a bribe to a public servant with a view to influence his conduct. She pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. E. Mirow, C. M. Castro, H. N. Huke, W. H. T. Davies, Mr. A. Calahso, A. Sinclair, and J. Lemm.

The Acting Attorney-General said defendant was charged with on the 11th December offering to Mr. Dyer Ball, who was a public servant in office as the Acting Assistant Registrar-General, a bribe, namely \$15, with a view to influence his conduct as such public servant. The evidence for the prosecution would show that defendant had been applying recently to the Registrar-General's department for permission to rent a pork stall on the site of the old latrine which formerly stood in the Sai Yung Po market. It would appear that defendant had been five or six times to the Registrar-General's Office and seen the clerks there with reference to this application, and apparently she was under the impression that if she gave a bribe it would facilitate matters. Mr. Ball would tell the jury that on Monday, December 11th, she met him on Kennedy Road and handed him an envelope addressed to himself and containing a \$10 note and a \$5 note. Mr. Ball took the envelope and told the woman to come to the office, and she was afterwards arrested. He might mention that it was part of Mr. Ball's duty as Acting Assistant Registrar-General to look after the letting of stalls in the markets, and probably the woman, acting under a mistaken impression as to the delay which had taken place in regard to this stall, acted on the business idea of offering this bribe in order to facilitate matters.

It appeared that the envelopes handed to Mr. Ball also contained a letter asking him to use his good offices.

The jury found the old woman guilty, and His Lordship fined her \$25, or a month's imprisonment.

19th December.

#### KIDNAPPING CASES.

A woman named Wong I, who was charged with an offence under the Women and Girls' Protection Ordinance, pleaded not guilty. She was defended by Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C.

The Acting Attorney-General (the Hon. H. E. Pollock) having stated the case for the prosecution, the evidence was called.

Mr. Francis then addressed the jury at some length on behalf of prisoner.

The Jury found prisoner guilty, and His Lordship sentenced her to 12 months' imprisonment.

The jurors were Messrs. F. X. Remedios, A. Rumjahn, F. H. A. Fuchs, F. D. Maclean, W. H. T. Davis, E. Mirow, and E. W. Terry.

There was another charge of a similar character against prisoner, but this was withdrawn.

December 21st.

#### THE LAMMA PIRACY CASE.

Chan Sam, Lai Lok, Cheung Chung, and Lai Hing were charged with robbery being armed. They pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. W. H. T. Davis, F. H. A. Fuchs, F. J. Barros, H. W. Rumker, F. D. Maclean, D. H. Silas, and W. H. Howard.

The Acting Attorney-General (the Hon. H. E. Pollock) said prisoners were charged with an offence against section 31 of Ordinance 7 of 1865, which provided that—"Whoever shall, being armed with any offensive weapon or instrument, rob, or assault with intent to rob, any person, or shall, together with one or more other persons, rob, or assault with intent to rob, any person, or shall rob any person, and at the time of or immediately before or immediately after such robbery shall wound, beat, strike, or use any other personal violence to any person, shall be guilty of felony." &c. It



was alleged in the indictment that these four men being armed, or some of them being armed, with revolvers and swords, made an assault upon certain people and stole their property. If the jury were satisfied that these men acted in concert in this matter then prisoner would be guilty of an offence under this section and of the offence under which they stood charged in the indictment. Some of the complainants were employees and some employees and part owners of a junk called a Kin Li junk, apparently of some 100 to 200 piculs capacity. This junk had been in the habit of going from Hung Hom to a place named Pinghoi. On the early morning of Saturday, November 25th, somewhere about daylight, five men started off on board this junk from Hungtom to Pinghoi. It appeared that they stopped near Lyeemoon Pass for a short time and took in some sand as ballast. There was practically no wind at the time and they rowed along the Lyeemoon Pass. They got safely past the village of Fa Tau Chan, where there was recently a customs station, and were going past Slope Island, when they noticed a boat rowing towards them. There were five men in the boat and these men called out to the people on board the junk to stop. Then two of the people in the boat who had revolvers fired, and the steersman of the junk was hit in the thigh. The man who fired this shot had been identified as the fourth prisoner. The men in the boat then got on board the junk and stole certain property, with which they went away in their boat. The actual robbery took place apparently somewhere about nine o'clock in the morning. The people on board the junk went back and reported the matter to the police at Shaikiwan. The following day the police arrested first, second, and third prisoners to the south of Lamma Island, fourth prisoner being arrested the following day. Some of the stolen property was found in their possession, and prisoners had been identified by the junk people.

Yesterday prisoners were found guilty, and the first three were sentenced to seven years and 20 strokes with the birch, and the fourth ten years.

#### IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE  
(THE HON. W. MEIGH GOODMAN).

HO FUNG WANG V. CHAN KIT SHAN AND  
ANOTHER.—JUDGMENT.

Suit No. 8 of 1899.—Between Ho Fung Wang, Administrator of the estate and effects of Ho I Shek (deceased) plaintiff, and Chan Kit Shan and Sz Kuk San, defendants.  
Hon. H. E. Pollock (instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley) represented the plaintiff; Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Ewens) represented the defendants.

His Lordship delivered the following judgment:—

The plaintiff in this suit sues as Administrator of Ho I Shek, deceased. The petition alleges that, at the time of his death, Ho I Shek was entitled to certain shares in two opium firms, and the plaintiff claims against the defendants as partners in such firms an account of the partnership dealings affecting such shares and that it may be ascertained of what such shares and the unpaid profits thereon now consist, and he asks that payment should be made to him of what might appear due in respect thereof to the estate of the deceased. One of the answers of the defendants to this claim is, that even if there were otherwise good grounds for such claim, which they deny, it is barred by the Statute of Limitations. It was desired by the parties to determine this question first; and, accordingly, the following issue of law was settled, viz.:—  
“Assuming that all the facts stated in the petition are true, is or is not the plaintiff's claim herein barred by the Statute of Limitations.”  
Now, in the ordinary course of things, when one partner dies the partnership property vests in the surviving partners. The representative of the deceased partner, however, has a right to an account and to receive that portion of the clear balance which accrues to the deceased's share and interest in the partnership. The Statute of Limitations applies, and the representative of the deceased must bring his claim

within six years from the time at which the statute first begins to run. If any authority is required for that proposition it is to be found in the case of Knox v. Gye, decided by the House of Lords in 1872, and reported in Law Reports 5 English and Irish Appeal Cases, p. 656. Where an executor is appointed by the will of the deceased, the *punctum temporis* from which the statutory period of six years begins to run is the date at which the partnership estate came to be vested in the surviving partners. At any time during the currency of that period the executor of the deceased partner may bring a suit demanding from the surviving partner an account of the partnership concerns, but after the statutory period has elapsed no such suit can be maintained. It must be borne in mind that the right of an executor to sue vests in him by virtue of the will and he may commence an action even before he has taken out probate. Where, however, the deceased dies intestate, there is no personal representative who can sue until Letters of Administration are taken out, and, in such case, I apprehend, the *punctum temporis* from which the statutory period begins to run is the date of the grant of administration. For instance, if an administrator sued upon a life policy effected by the deceased intestate, the statute would run from the grant of administration and not from the date of the death. The reason assigned for this principle is that the cause of action referred to in the Limitation Act in question, 21 James 1st, cap. 16, cannot exist unless there be also in existence a person capable of suing. This proposition was clearly laid down in A.D. 1821 in Murray (Administrator) v. The East India Company, 5 Barnwell and Alderson's Reports, p. 204, where the plaintiff succeeded on this very ground. Chief Justice Abbott saying: “Now, independently of authority, we think that it cannot be said that a cause of action exists, unless there be also a person in existence capable of suing.” In that case the action was brought within six years after the grant of administration but more than six years after the claim first arose. Such being the law with regard to the Statute of Limitations, it may be well to look at the facts and dates in the present case as shown in the petition. It appears that Ho I Shek died intestate on or about 19th June, 1880. The Letters of Administration under which the plaintiff sues were not granted till about 21st June, 1897, that is to say seventeen years after the death of Ho I Shek, and this suit was not commenced till 13th January, 1899, that is to say more than eighteen years after such death. Of course, if the statute did not begin to run till the grant of administration to the plaintiff, his claim is not barred, for he began his suit within less than two years from being appointed administrator. Between the death of Ho I Shek and the grant of administration to the plaintiff, however, it seems that a forged will purporting to be that of the deceased was produced, and that one Ho Chik Fan, the executor named therein, obtained probate in November 1886. That date was more than six years, after the death of Ho I Shek. In any case Ho Chik Fan in no way interfered with the shares of the deceased in the opium firm, and ten years after the probate had been obtained, namely, on or about 17th November, 1896, the alleged Will was declared null and void, by this Court, in Suit No. 48 of 1896, on the ground that it was a forgery, and the probate was thereupon revoked. It may here be noticed that if the will had been a genuine one the executor's claim would have been barred by the statute after the lapse of six years from the death of the testator. As, however, the will was a forgery it is clear that, at all events until probate was granted, there was no one in existence capable of suing, and as probate was not granted till more than six years after the death, whatever the rights of the executor under the forged will may have been before the probate was revoked, it seems clear that any claim he made under the probate would have been barred by the statute; for he could only have sued upon the hypothesis that the will was genuine. It follows, that the temporary existence of the executor under the improperly obtained probate was not the existence of a person capable of suing, at all events, effectively. I am, therefore, of opinion that,

unless I am prepared to ignore the decision of that great lawyer Chief Justice Abbott, I must hold that in this case the Statute of Limitations began to run only from the time of the grant of administration to the plaintiff. I cannot ignore that decision, and I decide accordingly that the plaintiff's claim is not barred by the Statute of Limitations. The issue being decided in the plaintiff's favour, he is entitled to costs.

#### SANITARY BOARD ELECTION.

The election of two members of the Sanitary Board by the ratepayers took place at the City Hall on Tuesday. Mr. A. Seth, Registrar of the Supreme Court, acted as Returning Officer and presided over the proceedings. The day being a Regatta holiday, and as no contest was anticipated, and as, furthermore, the fact that the election was to take place does not seem to have been widely taken note of, there was but a small attendance at four o'clock, the hour fixed for the nominations. Those present numbered about fifteen. Dr. Hartigan and Mr. James McKie were nominated by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead and seconded by the Hon. C. P. Chater, and these gentlemen were the only candidates. No speeches were made in support of the candidates.

Before the nomination the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—I think it extremely unfortunate we should find ourselves in the position we are now in. In the course of this morning I asked my friends, eight or ten of them, what course they were going to take in connection with these proceedings. I found they were quite unaware an election was going to take place. It was not known to one of them, and I think it extremely unfortunate the event was not more widely made public and that the ratepayers should not have seen more perfectly acquainted with the fact that the election was to take place this afternoon. Whether it would not be desirable to adjourn until the middle of January and not hold the election on a holiday, or semi-holiday, like this, is for the meeting to decide. I think it might be better if the election were postponed and the ratepayers made acquainted with the fact when the election is to take place.

Mr. SETH said the election had been duly notified in the *Gazette* and had been referred to in the newspapers. Only yesterday there was a paragraph in the papers with reference to the extension of the time for voting, seven o'clock having been fixed as the hour for closing the poll instead of six, which was on account of the Regatta. As to the date, it was fixed long before the Regatta was announced. The attendance was sufficient to proceed with the election.

The proceedings accordingly went on.

It was suggested that as there was no contest, the number of gentlemen nominated being the same as that of the seats to be filled, the election should take place by show of hands.

Mr. SETH decided, however, that the voting should take place by ballot, in the usual form, and that the ballot must remain open until seven o'clock.

When the hour named arrived Dr. Hartigan and Mr. McKie were declared duly elected.

Of the 700 and odd persons entitled to vote 19 only put in an appearance. Dr. Hartigan secured 18 votes and Mr. McKie 16. There were three plumpers for Dr. Hartigan and one for Mr. McKie. There were 15 split votes.

Mr. A. Seth acted as presiding officer, Messrs. Bruce Shepherd and A. Chapman were scrutineers, and Mr. d'Almada Castro F. Hewell, A. Brown, and V. A. Sales assisted in the distribution of the voting papers.

In future the German mail steamers for Europe will always leave on alternate Wednesdays at noon. If the English mail could be arranged also to leave on Wednesdays, we would again be placed in possession of a weekly mail, instead of the present irregular and inconvenient arrangement.

The Jelebu Mining and Trading Company sent to the *Straits Times* of the 18th December the following telegram received from Jelebu:—“The crushing plant worked as follows: Wednesday, 4 hours; Thursday, 10; Friday, 10; Saturday, 12; the great quantity of rain falling is assisting us; the result is very satisfactory.”



## HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held on Thursday, the 14th December, 1899, at 3 p.m.,—Present: Messrs. R. M. Gray (chairman), A. McConachie (Vice-Chairman), A. Haupt, Sir Thomas Jackson, Mr. N. A. Siebs, and Mr. R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting (held on 2nd November) were read and confirmed.

Read letter from Hon. T. H. Whitehead stating that, owing to a meeting of the Legislative Council having been called for the same hour, he would be unable to attend.

### RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.

The Chairman read a letter from Mr. W. Poole, dated 12th instant, tendering his resignation as a member of the Committee owing to his departure for home.

This resignation having been accepted.

The Chairman proposed that Mr. Herbert Smith be invited to fill the vacant seat at the Committee.

The Vice-Chairman seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

### THE PROJECTED NEW POST OFFICE.

In accordance with the decision come to at last meeting, a letter was, on the 3rd November, addressed to the Government forwarding copy of the resolution passed by the Committee in connection with the projected new Post Office.

The receipt of the foregoing despatch was acknowledged, on the 8th November, by the Colonial Secretary, who added that the question of a new Post Office was under the consideration of the Government.

### THE DISCRIMINATING DUTY IMPOSED ON FORMOSA TEAS.

Read letter, dated 15th November, received from the Government enclosing copy of a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, acknowledging receipt of Chamber's letter on above subject and stating that it had been laid before the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

### CABLE RATES FROM INDIA TO EUROPE.

The Secretary reported that another reply to the Chamber's circular letter of 16th August covering copy of resolution on above subject had been received, viz., from the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce.

### PROPOSED REDUCTION OF TELEGRAPH RATES FROM FAR EAST TO EUROPE.

The Secretary stated that letters of acknowledgement of Chamber's circular letter of 6th October enclosing a set of resolutions passed on the above subject had been received. On 7th November, from the Manila Chamber of Commerce, on the 15th November from the Bombay Chamber, on the 22nd November from the Yokohama Foreign Chamber, on the 25th November from the Madras Chamber, on the 7th November from the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber, and on the 6th December from the Rangoon Chamber.

### THE SYSTEM OF LEVYING FINES FOR OPIUM SMUGGLING AT SAIGON.

Read letter from the Government, dated 27th November, stating, with reference to previous correspondence on the above subject, that the matter of the application of the law for the prevention of smuggling into Saigon had been represented to the French Government, and is at present under its consideration.

### THE DANGEROUS GOODS AMENDMENT ORDINANCE, 1899.

A letter having been received, on the 11th December, signed by Messrs. Meyer & Co., Siemssen & Co., Carlowitz & Co., Lantz, Wegener & Co., and Wieler & Co., drawing the attention of the Committee to the fact that certain articles hitherto not considered dangerous, or subjected to any restriction in handling, had been included in the list of "Dangerous Goods" in the Bill now before the Council, and forwarding, in support of the contention that such goods should not be classed as dangerous, copies of letters from high authorities on the subject, action was promptly taken, as the Bill was down for second reading on that

day, and a letter despatched to Government asking that the second reading might be postponed for a week to give time for consideration of the measure.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary in reply, dated 13th December, acknowledging receipt, and saying that the Bill would be postponed accordingly.

Some discussion took place on the question, and after consideration it was resolved to write again to the Government to the effect that the Committee were strongly of opinion that the goods named, viz., percussion caps, priming caps, and empty sporting cases, should not, having regard to the decision of the authorities on explosives quoted, be classed as "Dangerous goods," and they hoped the Government would take the same view.

### THE INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL CONGRESS AT PHILADELPHIA.

A letter, dated the 30th October had been received from Mr. A. M. Townsend, New York, Agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, handing the Chamber a copy of the proceedings on "China Day" at the Commercial Congress at Philadelphia, which he said was well attended, and he believed would help considerably to increase the interest in the United States in the trade and politics of the Orient.

The Chairman said they were very much indebted to Mr. Townsend for the trouble he had taken on behalf of the Chamber in attending the meeting of the Philadelphia Congress and there giving expression to views which must meet with the approval of all members of that Chamber. He begged to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Townsend for so ably representing the Chamber at the Congress.

The Vice-Chairman seconded, and the resolution was carried by acclamation.

### THE MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT BILL.

The Secretary reported that the papers embodying the various suggestions made by different members of the Chamber had been returned by the Acting Attorney-General, who stated that some of the suggestions had been adopted while others had been rejected.

The report of the Law Committee had been laid on the table of the Legislative Council.

### THE VICEROYALTY TO THE TWO KWANG.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] Shanghai, 20th December.

#### LI HUNG-CHANG SUCCEEDS TAN.

Tan, Viceroy of the Two Kwang, has been ordered to Peking.

Li Hung-chang has been appointed acting Viceroy.

### AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."] MANILA, 20th December.

#### GENERAL LAWTON KILLED.

Major-General Lawton, commanding the First Division Corps, was killed yesterday, in an attack on San Mateo, by sharpshooters, who opened fire from across the river, eighteen miles from Manila.

### THE PROGRESS OF THE INSURRECTION.

#### HIGH PRICES REMAIN UNDISTURBED.

#### [FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 11th December.

The theatre of the insurrection remains in northern Luzon and day by day the troops are penetrating further and further into the boasted stronghold of the insurrection. Fierce and hotly contested fights, about which one hears very little in Manila, are of almost daily occurrence. The principal actions now take place in the hills and the numerous mountain passes that seem to divide up the northern country into so many blocks and valleys. On the 9th inst. General Young attacked a large and strongly entrenched force about 18 miles north-west of Cervertes in a narrow pass. The enemy had placed numerous entanglements and pitfalls that considerably annoyed the advance of the troops;

but after four hours' fighting the Filipinos gave up the position and fled into the hills, leaving 70 dead and wounded in the pass. The loss to the Americans was 2 killed and 12 wounded. Part of the time the men could not see one another, as the winding of the pass left only very short straight ranges and the nimble enemy was scattered about in the brushy hill sides. Much havoc was done by the small mountain guns, which burst their shrapnel against the rocky angles of the pass, causing the balls to ricochet and glance off in a hundred directions. On December 1st Bachelor's battalion of the 25th Infantry (coloured), left Bayombong and commenced a march up the great valley of the Rio Grande de Cagayan, which ends at Aparri, the most northern part of Luzon. Since that time nothing has been heard of the outfit and grave fears are beginning to be felt for the safety of the little band of 300 odd men. On the 8th and 9th the navy sent up several gunboats and a battalion of the Marine corps from Cavite, and it is probable that they have already landed and taken possession of Aparri. From that place they will send a force down the Rio Grande to attempt a junction with the coloured troops if they have not been heard from.

On Saturday the *Oregon*, a gunboat, and a supply ship sailed for Subic Bay, where it is proposed to land and occupy the town of Olongapo and cooperate with the troops under General Grant, who is marching across country through the Zambales hills to the west of the railroad.

The south line is still undisturbed, and a kind of understanding seems to exist, so that there are practically no hostilities at present. In a few days, however, the ball will very likely begin and the provinces of Cavite and Batangas will be opened to trade and commerce.

A very hopeful feeling exists about headquarters and indications point to the early opening of the ports of the southern islands. Such a move would be eagerly welcomed by the merchants, who have been suffering for months on account of the stagnation of coastwise trade. MacLeod & Co. are about the only shipping firm that have enjoyed any business for several months, and they have no doubt reaped some profit through their contracts with the American Government. All branches of trade, especially the retailers, are feeling the general business depression caused by the absence of the troops, who have been sent out on the lines, leaving only the smallest possible number to garrison Manila. In spite of the opening of the provinces of northern Luzon, prices of food and domestic commodities remain at a ridiculously high mark. The same holds true in nearly every line outside of foodstuffs also. The banks lead the van in the wholesale robbery that is so common throughout the city that people are beginning to lose sight of the outrages practised upon them.

A short time ago the U. S. Army Paymaster took the matter in hand and by his energetic methods he forced the banks to the exchange of \$2.06 for American gold while the selling rate stood at \$1.11; but Colonel McClure has returned to America and exchange is again going down and has already reached \$2.03. The unfortunate depositors of gold are "let in" on both ends of the game, and anyone desirous of hearing a choice line of select and varied profanity, can hear it to his heart's content by spending a half hour at any time during the business hours of the Banks.

Americans are rank fools in allowing themselves to be systematically "done" on almost every proposition before them, but they sit and growl and swear and kick all to no purpose. Dealers openly laugh and joke about it as they raise their prices 10 to 100 per cent. on "the shrewdest business men on earth," and, what is most surprising, they get it. No doubt they look upon it that the Americans are responsible for the falling off in the number of the customers and they propose to make up the deficiency in the gullibility of a remarkable number of "good things."

The minstrel troupe of H.M.S. *Bonaventure* gave an entertainment in the Lyceum Theatre, Shanghai, on the 15th instant, for the benefit of the Transvaal War Fund. The takings realised \$1,500.



### THE ALLEGED SHELL FISHING MONOPOLY.

The Hon. T. H. Whitehead writes:—I enclose copy of my letter of 18th inst to the Colonial Secretary and of the letter of same date addressed to me by certain fishermen. I shall be much obliged if you can find space for same in one of your early issues:—

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD TO COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1899.

Dear Sir,—For the information of His Excellency the Governor I beg to enclose herein copy of a letter of yesterday's date received by me from certain fishermen in connection with the alleged permission granted by the Government to a firm named the Lee Hing Company to collect shells for the term of five years in and around Ping Chau Island, and a copy of the translation of a notice said to have been posted up on the island by the said Company.—Yours truly,

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

The Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.

THE FISHERMEN TO THE HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hongkong, 12th December, 1899.

To the Honourable T. H. Whitehead, Member of the Legislative Council of Hongkong, &c. &c., Present.

Sir,—We the undersigned fishermen beg most respectfully to bring to your notice the following facts and circumstances in connection with the dredging and collecting shells monopoly. We sincerely hope that you will be good enough as a Member of the Legislative Council of this Colony to move the Government on the subject at the next meeting of the Legislative Council and ask the Government to cancel and abolish the alleged monopoly.

2.—That we have been dredging and collecting shells in the waters of the Island of Ping Chau and its vicinity for a great number of years before the said Island was leased by the Emperor of China to Great Britain.

3.—That we have paid no taxes or duties to the Chinese Government for collecting the shells in the waters of the aforesaid Island and in the vicinity thereof.

4.—That we have solely and entirely dependent our living and the support of our families by dredging and collecting the shells.

5.—As usual we recently went out to dredge and collect shells at the place before mentioned, but we were stopped from doing so by some people of the Ping-Chau Island.

6.—The people who stopped our dredging operations are the employees of the alleged monopoly. The name of the alleged monopoly is Lee Hing Company. These employees informed us that the aforesaid Company has the exclusive rights and privileges for collecting the shells and unless we pay them or to the said Lee Hing Company a sum of one candareen per picul for the same they would seize and confiscate our junks and they will also arrest and put us in prison.

7.—On being informed of this we forthwith petitioned the Government on the subject and asked for the abolition and cancellation of the alleged monopoly.

8.—The petition in question was forwarded to His Excellency the Governor through the Honourable the Registrar-General, but we have received no satisfactory results or answer on the subject.

9.—We therefore most humbly beg you to lay these facts before His Excellency the Governor at the next meeting of the Legislative Council and move for the cancellation and abolition of the alleged monopoly in question in order that we may resume our usual avocations without being interfered with by the employees or members of the said Lee Hing Company.

10.—In the event of His Excellency the Governor refusing to abolish or cancel the alleged monopoly we beg His Excellency to entertain our proposals as follows:—

(a) To put up the said monopoly for sale by public tender.

(b) If there is no existing law to put up for sale by public tender then we beg you to urge upon the Government to cancel the alleged

monopoly of the Lee Hing Company so that we may resume our usual dredging operations in the place in question.

11.—We beg to enclose herewith a plan and translation of a notice posted up at Ping Chau Island by the Lee Hing Company showing the boundary lines, &c. Nobody is allowed to collect shells within the specified boundary.

12.—In conclusion we beg you to pardon us or approaching you on the subject and we sincerely hope that you will on our behalf move the matter in question as it is of vital importance to our interest and to the future prospect and maintenance of our families, and by your doing so we shall feel extremely grateful.—We have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servants,

CHEONG FONG CHOW,  
CHEONG SHUET,  
YOW SHIU CHEE,  
LEE YUEN.

Agents for and owners of Boats.

TRANSLATION OF NOTICE POSTED UP AT PINGCHAU ISLAND BY THE LEE HING COMPANY.

Lai Po and Leung Lai Tong of the Lee Hing Company, merchants, have obtained permission from the Government to collect shells for the term of 5 years.

The boundaries are as follows:—

The Northern Boundary—From the North of Pingchau—a straight line running up to the chimney of the Hung How Glass works.

The Southern Boundary—Chea Kung Mun.

The Eastern Boundary—A straight line from the North East corner of Ma Wan.

The Western Boundary—Tai U Shan.

Names of the fishing junks.—Tsau Hing, Tai Hing, Shin Wo, Tang Wo, Tai Lee, Pan Wo, San Tak Shing, San Yau Lee, San Sing.

We have received the following further correspondence on this subject:—

Sir,—With reference to the correspondence in connection with the rights of fishermen at Ping Chau which appears in to-day's issue of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, I am directed by the Honourable Colonial Secretary to inform you that the following reply has been sent this day to the Honourable T. H. Whitehead's letter of the 13th instant.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant.

R. F. JOHNSTON.

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

The Editor, *Hongkong Daily Press*.

Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 15th December, 1899.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, enclosing a copy of a letter received by you from certain fishermen in connection with the collection of shells at the island of Ping-Chau.

The statement in the 8th paragraph of that letter, that no answer was given to the petition of the fishermen, is untrue.—I have, &c.

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART.

Colonial Secretary.

The Honourable T. H. Whitehead.

### LOSS OF THE STEAMER „ST. HELENS.”

Our Saigon correspondent sends us the following translation from the local paper *Opinion* of an account of the wreck of the British steamer *St. Helens*:—

The steamer *St. Helens*, of 3,994 tons register, belonging to the European Petroleum Co., Limited, was on a voyage from Hongkong to Singapore when on the night of the 14th November, during heavy weather and with a high sea running, she struck the Bombay Rock on the Paracels, about 420 miles from Cape St. James. When it was seen that the damage was too great to be repaired the crew, consisting of six Europeans and forty-five Chinese, decided to abandon the ship. For five days they remained in the neighbourhood, hoping to be picked up by some vessel, but nothing coming in sight they returned to the wreck, which was gradually but slowly sinking. They remained on board eight days, when the captain, seeing that the vessel was about to disappear, put all the water and provisions he could collect into the boats and left.

Fifteen days of terrible suffering from hunger, thirst, and the heat were experienced, and then they arrived at Cape St. James, much exhausted. One boat with five Chinese, was lost. The survivors will be sent to Singapore by the first opportunity.

### THE LEKIN QUESTION AT CANTON.

With reference to the proposal that the lekin tax in Kwangtung should be farmed by the Seventy-two Guilds jointly, a Canton correspondent informs us that the Banker's Guild, Silk Mercers' Guild, and Timber Merchants' Guild have refused to fall in with the arrangement. They say they will pay the amount of lekin adjudged to be due by their own Guilds, but they decline to accept any responsibility for the other Guilds. It is believed therefore that the proposal will fall through, owing to this lack of unanimity. One feature of the original proposal was that the whole Seventy-two Guilds should be represented by four respectable and wealthy merchants.

### PIRACY IN CANTON WATERS.

A Canton correspondent sends us the following instances of recent piracies:—

On the 13th inst. a Sunkat boat laden with a cargo of rattan and carrying passengers was about to start for Kongmun. Pirates had ascertained that there were several hundred dollars in the boat, and four of them went on board as passengers. The captain having got wind of the character of these passengers asked them to leave. They, however, refused to go, and, producing revolvers and pointing them at the crew compelled them to get ready to start. The alarm was raised, some people on shore sounded gongs, and a big crowd having collected, the pirates were about to be seized. They, however, slipped the ropes by which the boat was moored to the jetty and shoved off. They were pursued by several small boats, and just at this time a steam-launch named the *Hung Wing*, having a Kongmun boat in tow, arrived, and the people on shore shouted out to her to pursue the pirates. The crew, being afraid of the vengeance of the pirates, at first hesitated, but upon the shore people threatening them and commencing to fire upon them, they took up the chase. Another steam-launch, the *Lee Yik*, also arrived at this time, and she too joined in the pursuit. One pirate was killed, another jumped into the water, and the rest escaped.

On the 12th inst. a boat named the *Kut Olan*, from Saichow to Canton, was attacked about Woungkwakok, by pirates who had boarded her as passengers, and a large amount of booty was carried away.

About the same time another boat from Sunkat to Canton was attacked in mid-voyage and between two and three thousand dollars worth of property was stolen.

### HONGKONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

A general meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society was held in the City Hall on Wednesday at noon. Sir Thomas Jackson acted as Chairman, and there were also present the Rev. G. F. France, Captain G. C. Anderson, and Dr. J. M. Atkinson, and the members of the committee, namely, Mrs. Hawkins (President), Mrs. Macgregor Forbes (Secretary), Mrs. Hoare, Mrs. Siebs, Mrs. Ritchie, Mrs. Douglas Jones, Mrs. May, Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Anderson, Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Sachse, and Mrs. Dickson.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON, in submitting the accounts and report, said the balance from last year was \$1,649-97, and the following were the receipts for the year:—Donations and subscriptions \$1,390; smoking concert club \$50; Granville Sharp legacy, \$500; amounts refunded, \$20-60; interest, \$47-53; total (with balance from last year), \$3,644-25. The items on the expenditure side were:—Donations and relief of cases \$1,278-10; printing and advertising, \$30-08, and shroff's wages \$15, leaving a balance of \$2,336-95 to carry forward. In 1898 the donations and subscriptions amounted to \$1,137-89, and \$2,057-88 was expended in donations and the relief of cases. The report was as follows



—“The ladies of the committee of the Hongkong Benevolent Society have again to thank members and friends who throughout the year have given them the means of carrying out the objects of the society. They beg to submit a full report of the work done and moneys expended. In the early part of the year the President found it impossible to cope with the number of applicants, these applicants being chiefly vagrants, beachcombers, and sailors. The Committee then agreed to ask some influential gentlemen to undertake to interview these cases for them. These gentlemen kindly consented and for a few months did good work, but found it took too much of their valuable time and finally they had to give it up. It was then decided that in future these cases should not be treated by the Committee, but that a donation of \$20 monthly should be given to the Sailors' Home and a like sum to the Salvation Army Home, where such cases would be assisted when deserving. During the year 64 cases came under the consideration of the committee and assistance was given in 52 instances. Seventy-five cases were assisted at the above homes. Employment was found in the colony for several of the applicants and passages were paid for others to places where they had relatives, or to where they were assured of employment. On granting passages to other places the applicant has to show that he has friends there or promise of employment. The Society has paid for the maintenance and education of four destitute children, and monthly allowances have been made for poor and aged people. Should subscribers wish for more particulars as to cases herein reported the hon. secretary will be pleased to give full information. The Society has again most cordially to thank the managers of the various steamship companies who have so generously responded to their appeals for free and reduced passages for many of their applicants. During the year Mrs. Bell-Irving, Mrs. Beumann, Lady Jackson, Lady Carrington, Mrs. Master, and Mrs. Thomson left the colony, and Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Sachse, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Siebs, and Mrs. Douglas Jones joined the committee. The following ladies retire in rotation from the Committee:—Miss Anderson, Mrs. May, Mrs. Sachse, Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. Dickson, and Mrs. Douglas Jones, but they offer themselves for re-election.” Concluding, Sir Thomas said he begged to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Captain ANDERSON seconded and the motion was carried.

Rev. G. F. FRANCE observed that the \$20 a month was not sent to the Sailors' Home, but to the Seamen's Star Coffee House, which was a different place.

Sir THOMAS JACKSON—I hope the Star Coffee House will be the Sailors' Home.

Mr. FRANCE hoped so too.

On the motion of Mr. FRANCE, seconded by Captain ANDERSON, the retiring members of the Committee were re-elected.

A vote of thanks to Sir Thomas Jackson for presiding concluded the proceedings.

#### CONCERT AT THE CITY HALL.

A large audience assembled in the City Hall on Saturday evening, when a most enjoyable concert was given in aid of the Kowloon Institute and the Star Coffee House. Mr. A. Barrett, of the Hongkong Regiment, opened the programme with “The gallant salamander.” Mrs. Vallings followed with “Ask nothing more,” substituting “I remember” on being recalled. Mr. A. Fleet sang “Madrival,” and Madame Soulfort was encored for her rendering of “The jewel song” from “Faust.” Mr. C. H. Grace was also encored for his ringing of “The Bedouin love song,” substituting “I'm in love.” A violin duet by Messrs. C. Schroter and H. A. Siebs, with Maestro Galuzzi at the piano, was very well executed. “Love, could I only tell thee,” was contributed by Mr. G. H. Ardron, and Mr. R. de Calo was encored for “Occhi di Fata.” “The stage sailor” was effectively recited by the Hon. H. E. Pollock. The beautiful song “Unless” was sung by Mrs. Buttanshaw, and Madame Soulfort and Mr. R. de Calo concluded the programme with the duet “Hamlet” (A Thomas).

#### SERIOUS DISTURBANCE ON LAMMA ISLAND.

##### MURDEROUS ATTACK ON TWO INDIAN CONSTABLES.

That the islands recently included within the boundaries of the colony of Hongkong teem with bad characters has received another exemplification, and the necessity for still further increasing the police force becomes more and more apparent. Though Lamma Island has long been known as a veritable hotbed of thieves and robbers, the police are only represented by five Indians—a sergeant and four constables—who are stationed at Yung Shu Wan.

It appears that early yesterday morning—before daylight in fact—two Indian constables were on patrol near Yung Shu Long when they were suddenly attacked by about a score of Hoklos armed with choppers, etc. The constables appear to have been taken completely by surprise, for before they could offer any resistance they were deprived of their carbines, pouches, belts, ammunition, and whistles, being severely cut about the legs in the struggle which ensued. Their assailants then went to Yung Shu Wan, where they stole a fishing boat and rowed away in it eastwards.

In the meantime the constables returned to the Police Station, and they were brought over to the Police Station at Aberdeen and subsequently conveyed to the Government Civil Hospital.

The police at once set to work to get on the track of the ruffians.

#### THE VOLUNTEERS AND THE KOWLOON DISTURBANCES.

The following correspondence with reference to the services of the Volunteer Corps in connection with the occupation of the New Territory, is published in the *Gazette*:—

FROM THE GENERAL OFFICER COMMANDING TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1899.

Sir,—I have much pleasure in transmitting to you for your information the enclosed copy of a letter from the War Office respecting the recent services rendered by the Hongkong Volunteer Corps.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. J. GASCOIGNE,  
Major-General

Commanding in China and Hongkong.

WAR OFFICE TO THE GENERAL.

War Office, London, S.W.

9th November, 1899.

Sir,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for war to inform you that a report has been received from the Colonial Office respecting the occupation of the New Territory near Kowloon, in China, and I am to express Lord Lansdowne's satisfaction with the promptness and alacrity displayed by the Hongkong Volunteers on that occasion.

Lord Lansdowne wishes this expression of his appreciation of the services rendered by the Corps conveyed to those concerned.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

LESLIE RUNDLE D.A.G.

The General Officer Commanding in China and Hongkong.

#### THE LOSS OF THE “HUPEH.”

##### MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

On Tuesday a Marine Court of Enquiry was held at the office of the Harbour Master for the purpose of making enquiry respecting the circumstances connected with the foundering of the British steamship *Hupei*.

The Court was constituted as follows:—Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., Stipendiary Magistrate; Leut. R. Nelson-Ward, R.N., H.M.S. *Barfleur*; Captain Harry Smith, of the *Doric*; Captain Sydney de Bohun Lockyer, of the *Rohilla*; and Captain James Williamson, of the *Chow Fu*.

The warrant constituting the Court was read.

The letter of Captain G. H. Pennefather, of the *Hupei*, applying for an enquiry was read. It was as follows:—“I regret to have to inform you of the foundering of the S.S. *Hupei* under

my command in the China Sea on the 20th November and that 46 men are missing, having left the ship on rafts and not been seen since. By calling a Court of Enquiry to investigate the cause of the foundering at your earliest convenience you will greatly oblige, yours obediently, G. H. Pennefather, late Master.”

Captain Pennefather said he had a master's certificate issued in London in 1882. He had been in command of the *Hupei* since the 26th June last. She was owned by the Taikoo Sugar Refinery Company, of Hongkong, and was a steel steamer of 1846 register, two decks, four holds, cellular bottom, fore and aft, with the exception of under engine rooms and boilers. They left Pasaroan (Java) on the 6th November, with a full cargo (about 4,000 tons) of raw sugar in baskets bound for Hongkong. There was a full complement of officers and crew, and the ship was properly found in every way. The ship was last docked in Hongkong last June. She was then under Government survey. She had a passenger certificate. All went well until Tuesday, 14th November. They passed Cabra Island at 11 a.m. four miles off. They experienced a strong northerly wind. At 2 a.m. on the 16th he noticed that the ship was taking a list to port. At 6 a.m. she had a list of six degrees to port and at 8 a.m. she had a list of eight degrees. He then concluded that the cargo had shifted. He ordered the coals to be used from the port side and he turned the ship round with the intention of going to Manila to get the cargo put right. The sea was pretty high all day but moderated towards evening. At 10 p.m. the ship had 17 degrees list to port. Thinking it was getting dangerous he decided to jettison the cargo. He had previously ordered all pumps to be put on. They could not sound as the list placed the sounding pipes under water. They then took the hatches off No. 1 hold, that being the only one not covered by water. All hands were engaged during the night throwing the cargo overboard. By 5.30 a.m. on the 17th they had jettisoned 105 baskets from the port side, No. 1 hold. The ship had righted considerably, having a list of only four degrees. He then stopped jettisoning the cargo and battened down the hatch. The chief officer and himself sounded all wells and tanks and found all dry with the exception of No. 2 hold, where they found four feet of sugared water on the starboard side. At 6.30 a.m. without any warning the vessel fell 27 degrees to starboard, sweeping all the boats away on that side. He opened No. 1 hatch again and started to jettison from the starboard side of No. 1 hold, the ship steaming slowly at the time. They worked at the cargo until 5 p.m., when they had to leave off, as the water had got so high owing to the continued list. All the cargo on the starboard side of the 'tween decks in No. 1 hold had been discharged. The ship had then a list of 33 degrees. He battened down No. 1 hatch again and stopped the engines to draw fires, starting again at 8.30 p.m. The ship kept her way for about half an hour, when he lost all control over her. She had a list of 45 degrees. The engines were kept going until 4 a.m. on the 18th (Saturday), when the chief engineer reported to him that he could not keep steam any longer. The engines were stopped, but the pumps were kept going as long as there was any steam. The ship steadily increased her list. At 10 a.m. they provisioned the rafts. At 2.30 p.m. the ship suddenly listed five degrees more. She had now a list of between 50 and 60 degrees. The officers and engineers launched their raft and the Chinese launched the other seven rafts. Mr. Reveille (the passenger) and himself remained on the ship. The rafts made sail and disappeared out of sight to the south. On Sunday, the 19th, at daylight he noticed two rafts, one close to leeward and one to windward. At 9 a.m. the ship had drifted down to the raft to leeward. He found the boatswain and six Chinese on the raft. The boatswain reported that one raft which he had been towing had sunk during the night and the sharks had eaten all the people. The raft which was to windward came along-side about 4 p.m. This contained three officers and three engineers. They reported that during the night their raft had capsized and that they had lost their sail and all provisions. All then came on board.



There was now one boat left on the ship on the weather side abreast the funnel. They got this boat ready as well as they could to leave the ship. At daylight on the 20th (Monday) the ship was capsizing fast, and at 7 a.m. the water reached the stoke-hole gratings and began to find its way below. They all got into the remaining boat and stood by to cut her adrift. At 7.25 a.m. the masts and funnel were in the water and they cut the boat adrift, and pulled clear of the ship. The ship went down at 7.30 a.m. stern first. They then made sail, and on the morning of the 23rd, at 1 a.m., they landed on the beach near Manok, on the Island of Lubang. Next day they sailed to the other side of the island to the town. They left the Island on the 2nd December for Manila in a coasting steamer, *St. Andrew*, and arrived at Manila on the 5th December. They reported to the Consul. There were himself, three officers, three engineers, one passenger, one boatswain, three quarter-masters, one lamp-trimmer, and two sailors—15 all told. They had 60 of a crew and one passenger when they left port. That left 46 missing. No one was left on board the ship. In his opinion the leak might have been in No. 2 hold, caused possibly by the loosening of some rivets. Before the list the ship had been rolling 10 or 15 degrees.

William Hunter, Chief Officer of the *Hupei*, said he had been in the *Hupei* 16 months. He held a master's certificate. At 4 a.m. on the 16th Nov. he went on deck. The ship had a slight list. Towards the evening she had a list of from 12 to 15 degrees to port. During the day two soundings were taken on the low side and no water was found. That night some cargo was jettisoned. The only hatch they could get at was No. 1 hold, owing to the sea and the list. If the ship had been upright they might have got to No. 2 hatch. After the jettisoning the vessel came up to four degrees and soundings were taken when she was nearly upright. He found nearly four feet of syrup in No. 2 hold. He had been in this trade some time. He had never known a sounding to bring up syrup before. No. 2 was the only hold anything was found in. About half an hour or three quarters of an hour after this the ship was over to 27 degrees to starboard. Under all these circumstances he did not think it would have been prudent to open No. 2 hatch while the ship was upright. There was too much sea. They then started again to jettison from No. 1 hold. That hatch could be opened with safety because the water did not run along the deck so far as the hatch. The ship gradually went over. The crew and all except the captain and the passenger left on the rafts. The boats except two had been swept away. Two rafts got back to the ship again the following day. Eight rafts left the ship. He did not know of himself what became of the other six rafts. He had not formed any opinion as to the cause of the ship suddenly taking the list.

Witness was recalled after tiffin. He said that steps were taken to endeavour to remove the syrup out of No. 2 hold, the Captain giving orders to put the steam pump on the hold. The pumps drew a little water but failed to bring the syrup. The water seemed like bilge water. He supposed the syrup was too thick to come through. He was not aware that the official log or any records of the ship were saved. He concluded that the water must have got into the ship in consequence of a leak.

Samuel Farrel, chief engineer of the *Hupei*, also gave evidence.

The court gave their decision after a consultation of about half an hour's duration, the finding concluding as follows:—

"After carefully considering the evidence the court finds no little difficulty in forming an opinion as to the cause of the casualty, but it appears fairly conclusive

"That the ship sprang a leak in No. 2 hold and the probability seems that in an unusual roll the water settled on the port side of the flat tank top on which the cargo was stored; that when the ship became upright through the jettisoning of cargo she only remained in that state till another unusual roll settled the water over to starboard, and that by this time the stowage had been so disturbed by the dissolving of the sugar that the whole cargo gradually fell over to the starboard side till it capsized the ship.

"The Court does not find that any blame attaches to the master for the loss of the ship, and they are impressed with his conduct in electing to remain by her to the last and by the conduct of his passenger, who remained with him. Such conduct in the court's opinion stands out in relief against that of the officers and crew, who appeared only too ready to get away, notwithstanding the fact that their Captain remained, but seeing it was not against the wishes of the Captain that they pursued this course, the court refrains from making more than a passing reference to their conduct. The master's certificate is returned to him."

#### THE DAIRY FARM CO., LIMITED.

The third ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the Dairy Farm Co., Limited, was held on Monday at the Company's Town Depot. There were present Captain Tillett (chairman), Messrs. F. Maitland (director), W. H. Potts (secretary), James Walker (manager), Capt. Goddard, and Mr. Ling Wong.

The CHAIRMAN said—As the report and accounts have been in your hands for several days, I will, with your permission, adopt the usual course and take them as read. Since our meeting on the 27th October, 1898, to the 31st July last, the end of the financial year, the health of the herd has been above the average, and the loss by death less than for several years past, although rinderpest was rife in other dairies in the colony, as also on the mainland. The effects of sickness in our herd in February, 1898, was much felt in the first part of the year under review, when, through a short supply of milk and enhanced cost of food stuffs and management, we were barely meeting expenses, but with a general improvement in the health of the cattle and a large increase in the milk returns, we were able to take full advantage of the curtailment in the supply of other dairies through rinderpest. I may state that the whole of our herd were carefully valued by our manager, Mr. James Walker, on a low basis, and on his valuation your directors deemed it prudent to write \$7,755.88 off the book value. We have started business in fresh Australian butter with encouraging results, and we think the trade admits of large expansion. We had intended holding the meeting early in October, but owing to an outbreak of rinderpest in a shed at Pokfulam on the 25th September, it was decided to await the result. Fortunately the disease was confined to one shed, the stock in which consisted almost entirely of young heifers, 10 of which and one cow died. We were granted a clean bill of health on 1st December, but I much regret that on 5th inst. rinderpest again made its appearance. We do not anticipate much loss from the latter outbreak, and trust we shall soon be in possession again of a clean bill of Health. As mentioned in the report, we have to deplore the death of the senior member of our Board, Mr. Granville Sharp, who for many years acted as chairman and devoted a large amount of time and thought to the affairs of the company. After careful consideration your directors recommend a dividend of 36 cents per share, being at the rate of 6 per cent. on the paid up value of the share. Shareholders will please apply to the secretary for their warrants, which will be ready to-morrow. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions.

Captain GODDARD asked some questions with reference to the accounts, which were answered by the CHAIRMAN.

The CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Captain GODDARD seconded.

Carried.

Mr. WALKER proposed the confirmation of Mr. Maitland as a director.

The CHAIRMAN seconded.

Carried.

Captain GODDARD proposed that Captain Tillett and Mr. Maitland be re-elected as directors.

Mr. WALKER seconded.

Carried.

Mr. LING WONG proposed the re-election of Mr. Fullerton Henderson as auditor.

Mr. MAITLAND seconded.

Carried.

This was all the business.

#### THE HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the fifteenth ordinary general meeting, to be held at the Company's Registered Offices, 33 & 40, Queen's Road Central, on Thursday, 28th December, at noon:—

Gentlemen,—We beg to lay before you the report and statement of accounts for the year ending 30th November, 1899.

The traffic receipts for the twelve months, together with transfer fees, amount to \$67,741.65. After paying interest and all running expenses and making provision for auditors' fees, there remains a net profit on the year's working of \$23,513.49, which, added to \$1,176.12 carried forward from last year, gives a sum of \$24,689.61 available for appropriation. Your General Managers and Consulting Committee recommend that a dividend of \$12 per share be paid to shareholders, absorbing \$15,000, that a sum of \$2,319.94 be written off rolling stock, and that \$5,000 be carried to a permanent reserve fund, leaving \$2,369.67 to be carried forward to new account.

#### CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

In May last Mr. C. W. Dickson was invited to join and accepted a seat on the Board. In accordance with rule 15 of the Company's articles of association, the present members, Messrs. C. Ewens, J. Orange, and C. W. Dickson retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITORS.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Fullerton Henderson from the colony the accounts have been audited by Mr. W. H. Potts alone. Both gentlemen offer themselves for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,  
General Managers.

Hongkong, 16th December, 1899.

#### BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30TH NOVEMBER, 1899.

| LIABILITIES                                                        |                            | \$           | c |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|---|
| Capital account:—1,250 shares of \$100 each                        | fully paid up              | 125,000.00   |   |
| Debentures:—50 of \$500 each                                       |                            | 25,000.00    |   |
| Local and general liabilities                                      |                            | 10,962.54    |   |
| Profit and loss:—Brought forward                                   | \$1,176.12                 |              |   |
| Do.                                                                | For current year 23,513.49 | 24,689.61    |   |
|                                                                    |                            | \$190,651.55 |   |
| ASSETS                                                             |                            | \$           | c |
| Permanent way, concession, and deed of grant                       | 125,000.00                 |              |   |
| Stations, Crown leaseholds, and buildings                          |                            |              |   |
| (inland lots 1317, 1332, 1333, 1334, 1335, 1353, and R. B. lot 86) |                            | 13,388.48    |   |
| Rolling stock                                                      |                            | 21,319.94    |   |
| Furniture account                                                  |                            | 125.00       |   |
| Coals and stores in hand                                           |                            | 612.60       |   |
| Accounts receivable                                                |                            | 192.30       |   |
| Cash in H. & S. Bank                                               | \$27,606.23                |              |   |
| Cash and compradore's orders in hand                               | 1,206.40                   | 28,812.63    |   |
|                                                                    |                            | \$190,651.55 |   |

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

| Dr.                                      |         | \$          | c |
|------------------------------------------|---------|-------------|---|
| To salaries and wages                    |         | 16,199.47   |   |
| To charges                               |         | 1,861.49    |   |
| To maintenance and repairs               |         | 10,681.07   |   |
| To coals and stores                      |         | 7,885.60    |   |
| To interest                              |         | 2,311.53    |   |
| To rates, Crown rent, and fire insurance |         | 1,017.01    |   |
| To godown and station rent               | \$2,100 |             |   |
| Less sundry rents received               | 976     | 1,124.00    |   |
| To General Managers' and auditors' fees  |         | 1,350.00    |   |
| To office rent and clerks' salaries, &c. |         | 1,800.00    |   |
| To balance                               |         | 24,689.61   |   |
|                                          |         | \$68,919.77 |   |
| Cr.                                      |         | \$          | c |
| By amount brought forward from last year |         | 1,176.12    |   |
| By transfer fees                         |         | 2.00        |   |
| By traffic receipts for the year to date |         | 67,741.65   |   |
|                                          |         | \$68,919.77 |   |

The Pahang correspondent of the *Straits Times* reports that Mr. Thomas Blamey, lately the manager of the Punjani Mines, has obtained special prospecting rights for one year, from September, 1899, over 250 acres of land situated north of the Raub Australian Gold Mining Company's property.



## WOO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the fourth ordinary meeting to be held at the office of the General Managers, Shanghai, on Friday, 22nd December, 1899, at 3 p.m.:

The General Managers submit a Statement of Accounts to the 31st October, 1899, showing the result of twelve months' working to that date.

The total number of Spindles ordered, 50,144, have now all been erected, but a small quantity of preparing machinery has still to arrive and therefore not more than 49,432 Spindles have been run on any one day; the average for the year being 43,878 Spindles. The year commenced with low prices for Cotton, but with low and unremunerative prices for Yarn, so much so, that the first six months showed an actual, if only small, loss on the working. The second six months witnessed a great advance in the price of Cotton, which was not followed by an equal rise in the price of Yarn, in consequence of which the year ends with only the small profit of Taels 14,427.56, of which it is proposed to transfer Taels 12,000 to Depreciation Account and to carry forward Taels 2,427.56 to next year.

Consulting Committee.—In accordance with Article XVII the members retire but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Auditor.—Mr. Wingrove offers himself for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Managers.

Shanghai, 11th December, 1899.

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO 31st OCTOBER, 1899.

| LIABILITIES.                                                                                                 |                   | Tls.         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Capital—Authorized 17,500 shares at Tls. 100 each—Tls. 1,750,000, subscribed 15,000 shares at Tls. 100 each— |                   | 1,500,000.00 |
| Jardine, Matheson & Co. ....                                                                                 |                   | 316,000.00   |
| Accounts payable .....                                                                                       |                   | 46,624.53    |
| Suspense account .....                                                                                       |                   | 1,845.40     |
| Uncollected dividends .....                                                                                  |                   | 1,102.50     |
| Profit and loss account .....                                                                                |                   | 14,427.56    |
|                                                                                                              | Tls. 1,379,999.99 |              |

| ASSETS.                                      |                   | Tls.       |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Property .....                               |                   | 139,219.85 |
| Buildings .....                              | 263,031.44        |            |
| Buildings extension .....                    | 115,070.48        |            |
|                                              |                   | 383,101.92 |
| Plant .....                                  |                   | 953,120.18 |
| Water supply .....                           |                   | 27,232.81  |
| Mill stores .....                            |                   | 5,355.05   |
| Coal .....                                   |                   | 845.00     |
| Furniture .....                              |                   | 3,433.05   |
| Cotton stock .....                           |                   | 137,177.24 |
| Cotton and yarn in process .....             |                   | 22,249.05  |
| Yarn stock .....                             |                   | 137,796.40 |
| Unexpired fire insurance premia .....        |                   | 9,510.40   |
| Rates and taxes (applicable to next year) .. |                   | 300.04     |
| Accounts payable .....                       |                   | 51,775.00  |
| Sundry debtors .....                         |                   | 8,528.93   |
| Hongkong and Shanghai Bank .....             |                   | 251.22     |
| Cash with compradore .....                   |                   | 103.85     |
|                                              | Tls. 1,879,999.99 |            |

### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

| Dr.                                           |                 | Tls.      |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| To balance from last year .....               |                 | 17,649.89 |
| To interest .....                             |                 | 45,473.68 |
| To fire insurance .....                       |                 | 17,872.70 |
| To rates and taxes .....                      |                 | 1,844.39  |
| To printing, advertising and charges, general |                 | 960.28    |
| To directors' fees .....                      |                 | 3,750.00  |
| To auditor's fees .....                       |                 | 250.00    |
| To General Managers' commission .....         |                 | 18,239.56 |
| To balance .....                              |                 | 14,427.56 |
|                                               | Tls. 130,274.04 |           |

| Cr.                                 |                 | Tls.       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| By transfer fees .....              |                 | 44.00      |
| By balance of working account ..... |                 | 130,230.04 |
|                                     | Tls. 130,274.04 |            |

The Straits Times of the 9th inst. says:—About 11.30 this morning, Her Majesty's gunboat *Battler* left Singapore, and is stated to be bound for the west coast of Borneo. It is believed that this movement is connected with the native troubles in Borneo, which Mat Salleh is said to be instigating. Before she sailed this morning the *Battler* took on board a party of thirty Royal Marines from H.M.S. *Hermione*.

## BRITISH AND CHINESE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

The report of the Directors states:—

The accounts submitted herewith embrace the period from the registration of the Corporation on May 24, 1898, to June 31, 1899, and show a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £29,207 9s. 11d., which the Directors recommend should be disposed of as follows:—To the payment on 30th inst. of a dividend of £5 per share, £12,500, writing off the preliminary and formation expense of the corporation, £741 18s. 2d.; and to carrying forward to next account the balance, £5,965 11s. 9d., less the remuneration of the Directors to be voted at the general meeting. Having regard to the very small amount of the paid-up capital, the Directors propose, immediately after the declaration of the dividend of £5 per share, to call up an identical amount per share, thus increasing the paid-up capital to £25,000, or £10 per share, and reducing the liability to £90 per share. Notice of the call will be issued with the dividend warrants. A resolution will be submitted to the meeting to increase the number of Directors from five to six, and to elect to the seat on the Board thus created Mr. E. F. Alford, a late partner in China of Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Northern Railway Loan.—In February last the corporation issued successfully the Chinese Imperial Railway 5 per Cent. Gold Loan of £2,300,000, on conditions specially recognized by the British Government. The service of the loan is met out of the traffic receipts, which are reported to be adequate for the purpose. There is, in addition, the guarantee of the Imperial Chinese Government, and the bonds are, in the opinion of the Board, well secured. The extension of the line is being vigorously proceeded with under Mr. Kinner's direction. The preliminary contracts and negotiations for further business in China into which the corporation has entered are as follows, and, except where otherwise stated, are made with the Imperial Chinese Railway administration.

Shanghai-Soochow-Nanking Railway.—Including the extension (covered by a separate contract) from Soochow to Hangchow, and thence to Ningpo, these lines (about 410 miles in length) will serve the most populous and fertile districts in the Yangtze Valley. Surveys and estimates have been made, and the Directors of the corporation are using every endeavour to bring this business to a satisfactory conclusion. The Tientsin Chinkiang Railway hereafter referred to is designed to connect with this railway at Chinkiang, and will be the east coast trunk line, uniting the settlement and city of Shanghai with Tientsin and Peking.

Tientsin-Chinkiang-Railway.—The contract for this loan is held by the Deutch Asiatische Bank and the corporation jointly.

Canton-Kowloon (Hongkong) Railway.—The corporation have obtained the preliminary contract for, and have recently completed a survey of, this important piece of line, about 125 miles in length. It will constitute the concluding section and outlet of the mid-China trunk line from Peking to Hongkong via Hankow and Canton.

Pookoo-Sinyang Railway.—Starting from a point on the river opposite Nanking, the line, under the contract is to connect at Sinyang with the Peking-Hankow line, and thus form a cross-country connection of about 300 miles between the sea coast projects and the trunk lines, which will traverse the Empire from Peking to Hongkong.

Nanpiao Coalfield.—This is an option to acquire a share in a concession granted by the Northern Railway administration. The corporation have an engineer on the ground carrying on prospecting operations. In the Northern Railway Loan Contract provision was made for the construction of a branch line to Nanpiao to serve the prospective colliery.

American China Development Company.—The American China Development Company and the corporation have agreed to offer each to the other opportunities of participating in business which either may acquire. The American company hold a contract for the line designed to run from Hankow to Canton, the survey of which they have completed. This line will be a continuation from Hankow of

the line which is being constructed from Peking to Hankow under Belgian auspices.

## VICTORIA REGATTA.

FIRST DAY, TUESDAY, 19TH DECEMBER.

The annual Regatta in connection with the Victoria Recreation Club commenced yesterday. The weather was somewhat cloudy in the early part of the day, but brightened up during the afternoon and proved most favourable for the occasion. Excellent accommodation had been provided by the committee for the comfort and convenience of visitors and a large number availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered of witnessing this magnificent though somewhat neglected pastime. Captain Amesbury had kindly lent the American barque *Adolf Oberg* as flagship, for which she was most admirably suited. She was dressed with bunting and presented quite a gay appearance. Through the courtesy of the Chief Manager of the Dock Company the *Fame* acted as tender to the *Adolf Oberg* and conveyed passengers to the flagship from Pedder's Wharf, leaving the latter place at 12.3 and 1 p.m. and returning ten minutes after the last race. By the kind permission of Lieut. Colonel Retallick and Officers the band of the Hongkong Regiment was in attendance on board the flagship and played selections during the afternoon. The water was quite smooth and with the exception of a strong wind there was nothing to prevent good time being made in the rowing races. The principal event of the day was the Chairman's Challenge Cup, for which there were five entries, but on account of the illness of the stroke of Kornblume, Mr. E. Herbst, that boat was scratched. The other boats rowed a close race, the honours falling to the crew of the *Shamrock*. The race for the Ladies' Prize also created much enthusiasm, being well contested and finishing with a victory for the *Rose*. The snake boat competition was very amusing, each of the crews being determined on winning. In their anxiety to get away two of them ran foul of each other, but after breaking away resumed their hopeless struggle. After the race for the Ladies' Prize all assembled on board the flagship to witness the pleasing ceremony of Miss Powell presenting the cup to the winning crew. In the absence of Comd. Hastings Mr. Stewart Lockhart introduced the crew to Miss Powell, who made a graceful speech in presenting the prize, and afterwards Mr. A. A. Alves handed Miss Powell a beautiful bouquet. Three cheers and a tiger were then given for Miss Powell and also for the ladies, and afterwards for the winning crew.

The following is a list of the officials:—  
President:—H.E. Sir Henry A. Blake, G.C.M.G.

Stewards:—H.E. Rear-Admiral C. C. P. Fitzgerald, H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G., Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Hon. E. E. Bellios, C.M.G., Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Colonel H. Elsdale, R.E., Lieut.-Colonel A. Fraser, R.A., Mr. D. Gillies, Hon. W. M. Goodman, Sir T. Jackson, Hon. J. J. Keswick, Mr. J. H. Lewis, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Mr. E. W. Mitchell, Mr. H. N. Mody, Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Lieut.-Col. The O'Gorman, D.A.A.G.A.; Commodore F. Powell, R.N.; Colonel Retallick, H.K.R.; Dr. F. C. Rieloff, German Consul; Mr. H. A. Ritchie, Mr. A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal; Hon. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N.; Commander C. W. M. Plenderleath, R.N.; Mr. N. A. Siebs, Mr. C. A. Tomes, Mr. Herbert Smith, Captain A. Tillett, Mr. F. Volpicelli, Italian Consul; Mr. Rounsvell Wildman, U.S. Consul-General; and Hon. A. G. Wise.

Judges of the Rowing Races:—Mr. Basil H. Taylor, R.N.; Captain W. C. H. Hastings, R.N.; Mr. E. D. Sanders.

Umpires and Starters:—Rowing Starter, Mr. W. H. Potts; Umpires, Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., and Mr. C. H. Grace. Yachts, Mr. R. Cooke. Open Sailing Boats, Capt. F. D. Goddard.

Judge of the Sailing Races:—Lieut. Butler, R.N.

Time-keeper:—Mr. Hart Buck. Light-Gies; open to regular Chinese crews of the same long or office; boats must carry a European crewman; boats to be sailed by the Committee; distance, one mile; time



allowance, 8 seconds per oar; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5.

Marjorie (H.M.S. Tamar) ... 1  
Joan (H.M.S. Tamar) ... 2

There were only two entries for this race, both being from H.M.S. Tamar. Joan got away with a slight start which she successfully held until within about 200 yards from the flagship, when Marjorie shot ahead and won by half a length. Time, 6 min. 28 secs.

CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP; for four-oars; cup to be held by the winning crew for one year, but to remain the property of the Club; distance, one mile; entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

SHAMROCK ... 1

Station No. 2.—White, blue edges.

|                         | st. | lbs. |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, H. A. Seth ...     | 9   | 11   |
| 2, F. H. Hyndman ...    | 10  | 10   |
| 3, C. E. A. Hance ...   | 11  | 2    |
| Stroke, A. A. Alves ... | 11  | 5    |
| Cox, E. Grant Smith ... | 10  | 0    |

LEEK ... 2

Station No. 3.—White.

|                         | st. | lbs. |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. J. Mackie ...   | 10  | 0    |
| 2, W. Watson ...        | 11  | 2    |
| 3, W. S. Bailey ...     | 10  | 12   |
| Stroke, A. E. Alves ... | 11  | 2    |
| Cox, F. W. White ...    | 10  | 0    |

THISTLE ... 3

Station No. 5.—White and red.

|                        | st. | lbs. |
|------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. D. Bain ...    | 9   | 2    |
| 2, C. Benjamin ...     | 9   | 10   |
| 3, W. A. Stopani ...   | 12  | 7    |
| Stroke, R. Lapsley ... | 11  | 5    |
| Cox, F. Lammert ...    | 10  | 9    |

ROSE ... 0

Station No. 4.—White and light blue.

|                              | st. | lbs. |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. Humphreys ...        | 10  | 2    |
| 2, A. E. Asgar ...           | 9   | 8    |
| 3, O. J. Ellis ...           | —   | —    |
| Stroke, J. A. Fredericks ... | 10  | 10   |
| Cox, R. Henderson ...        | 10  | 0    |

A very even start was made, with the exception of Thistle, who was a little slow in getting under way, but she seemed to recover the space she had lost and a most even race followed. At the commencement of the last half mile the Shamrock and Thistle forged ahead, closely followed by the Leek. Shamrock crossed the winning line three-quarters of a length in front of the Leek, closely followed by the Thistle. Time 6 min. 45½ s. cs.

LIGHT GIGS; open to European non-Commissioned Officers and men of any Regiment or Corps of the garrison or to European crews of any of H. M. vessels or to European members of the police force; entrance, \$1; distance, one mile; boats to be approved of by the Committee; time allowance, 8 seconds per oar; four boats must start for 2 prizes; 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10.

Victoria (R.E.) ... 1  
Majorie (R.N.) ... 2

Majorie was the first to get away, but was soon overhauled by the Victoria, which maintained a lead of about a boat's length until within a quarter of a mile from the flagship, when she slowly increased her lead and won by a length and a half. Time, 6 min. 26½ sec.

SNAKE BOATS; open to Chinese Snake Boats; distance, one mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; eight boats to start for 2 prizes.

Eight boats entered in this competition, the result of which was a most interesting race.

LADIES' PRIZE; presented by the ladies of Hongkong; for four-oars; distance one-mile; entrance, \$10; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

ROSE ... 1

Station No. 2.—White, blue edges.

|                         | st. | lbs. |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. H. Hyndman ...  | 9   | 0    |
| 2, A. Loureiro ...      | 10  | 10   |
| 3, A. E. Alves ...      | 11  | 2    |
| Stroke, A. A. Alves ... | 11  | 5    |
| Cox, F. W. White ...    | 10  | 0    |

THISTLE ... 2

Station No. 1.—Black, pink sash.

|                       | st. | lbs. |
|-----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, Albert Ellis ... | 11  | 12   |
| 2, W. A. Stopani ...  | 12  | 7    |

3, J. McMurtrie ... 12 10  
Stroke, W. Armstrong ... 12 10  
Cox, G. A. Caldwell ... 10 0

SHAMROCK ...

Station No. 3.—White and light blue.

|                              | st. | lbs. |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. Humphreys ...        | 10  | 0    |
| 2, A. E. Asgar ...           | 9   | 8    |
| 3, J. Millar ...             | 9   | 9    |
| Stroke, J. A. Fredericks ... | 10  | 10   |
| Cox, F. Lammert ...          | 10  | 9    |

Three of the four entries started in this race, Kornblume having been scratched on account of the stroke not being able to be present. Shamrock had slightly the best for a good start, but was soon overhauled by the Rose and Thistle. The contest from this to the coal depot was very even, when the two last named passed the Shamrock. The Rose, however, was first on the line, winning by a length, and the Thistle was about three-quarters of a length ahead of the Shamrock. Time 7 min. 8 sec.

MEN-OF-WAR CUTTERS; the boats to be approved and handicapped if necessary by the Committee; distance, one mile; time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar; four boats must start for two prizes; entrance, \$1; first prize, \$15; second prize, \$5. (Post entries).

Hertha (Green flag) ...  
Hansa No. 1 ...  
Hansa No. 2 ...  
Hertha (Red flag) ...  
Orlando's Cutter ...

There were five entries in this race, consisting of four cutters from the German men-of-war and one from H.M.S. Orlando. Hertha (green flag) was the first to get in the lead, a position she maintained to the end, finishing with Hansa No. 1 a length behind. Time 8 min. 6½ sec.

LUSITANO CUP; presented by the members of the Club Lusitano (for four oars); distance, one-mile; entrance, \$10; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

ROSE ... 1

Station No. 3.—White and light purple.

|                           | st. | lbs. |
|---------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. D. Bain ...       | 9   | 2    |
| 2, F. M. Roza Pereira ... | 10  | 5    |
| 3, Albert Ellis ...       | 11  | 12   |
| Stroke, A. E. Alves ...   | 11  | 2    |
| Cox, E. Grant Smith ...   | 10  | 0    |

SHAMROCK ... 2

Station No. 2.—White, blue edges.

|                         | st. | lbs. |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. H. Hyndman ...  | 9   | 0    |
| 2, A. Loureiro ...      | 10  | 10   |
| 3, A. E. Alves ...      | 11  | 2    |
| Stroke, A. A. Alves ... | 11  | 5    |
| Cox, H. W. Kennett ...  | 10  | 0    |

THISTLE ... 3

Station No. 4.

|                        | st. | lbs. |
|------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, H. A. Seth ...    | 9   | 3    |
| 2, F. Garrett ...      | 11  | 0    |
| 3, W. A. Stopani ...   | 12  | 7    |
| Stroke, R. Lapsley ... | 11  | 5    |
| Cox, A. M. Bain ...    | 10  | 0    |

LEEK ... 4

Station No. 5.—White and light blue.

|                              | st. | lbs. |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, G. Rapp ...             | 8   | 6    |
| 2, A. E. Asgar ...           | 9   | 8    |
| 3, F. H. Hyndman ...         | 9   | 0    |
| Stroke, J. A. Fredericks ... | 10  | 10   |
| Cox, F. Lammert ...          | 10  | 9    |

KORNBLUME ... 5

Station No. 1.—Light and dark blue.

|                       | st. | lbs. |
|-----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, J. Millar ...    | 10  | 10   |
| 2, J. H. R. Hance ... | 10  | 0    |
| 3, A. J. Mackie ...   | 10  | 0    |
| Stroke, E. Herbst ... | 9   | 10   |
| Cox, F. W. White ...  | 10  | 0    |

There were five entries in this contest, all of them making an excellent start, but Rose and Shamrock soon obtained a little headway on the rest and succeeded in increasing the distance until it became a race between the two. Nearing the coal depot Rose put on a spurt and finished a length ahead of the Shamrock. Time 7 min. 2½ sec.

SAMPAN RACE; open to regular Chinese sampans; distance, half-mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; eight boats to start for 2 prizes.

No. 2851 ... 1

" 2821 ... 2

" 2837 ... 3

" 2887 ... 0

Four entered in this competition. After a hard tussle 2851 secured the victory.

Time, 8 min. 28½ secs.

LIGHT GIGS; distance, half mile; entrance, \$10; to be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

TERRIBLE ... 1

Station No. 3.—White and light blue.

|                         | st. | lbs. |
|-------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. E. Asgar ...    | 9   | 7    |
| Stroke, M. E. Asgar ... | 9   | 8    |
| Cox, F. W. White ...    | 10  | 0    |

POWERFUL ... 2

Station No. 2.—

|                                  | st. | lbs. |
|----------------------------------|-----|------|
| Fow, A. M. Roza Pereira, jun ... | 9   | 4    |
| Stroke, F. M. Roza Pereira ...   | 10  | 5    |
| Cox, S. A. Seth ...              | 10  | 0    |

JUBILEE ... 3

Station No. 1.—White.

|                      | st. | lbs. |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, J. Lacock ...   | 14  | 0    |
| Stroke, J. Quinn ... | 13  | 10   |
| Cox, F. Lander ...   | 10  | 0    |

In this race there were three entries but at the starting point Lacock in the bow of the Jubilee had the misfortune to break an oar-lock. Nothing daunted the remaining oarsmen went to work with a will at what appeared a hopeless task. His comrade to relieve him of 14 stone deadweight jumped overboard and was picked up by one of the launches. In the meantime the Terrible was gradually forging ahead of the Powerful and finally beat her by a couple of lengths, with Jubilee bringing up the rear. Time, 6 min. 35 secs.

SAILING RACE.—FOR YACHTS AND PARTIALLY-DECKED BOATS; (in two classes), Y. R. A. time allowance; prize, a Cup for each class; entrance, \$4. Course, 9 miles.

A CLASS.

| Names                            | Owners                  | Rating     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Chanticleer ...                  | Mr. C. A. Tomes ...     | Allow.     |
| Doreen ...                       | Mr. W. Loring, R.A. ... |            |
| Iris ...                         | Hon. F. H. May ...      |            |
| Gloria ...                       | Officers, R.A. ...      |            |
| Bonito ...                       | Major Koe ...           | 11 seconds |
| Active ...                       | Hon. H. E. Pollock ...  | 11 "       |
| Erica ...                        | Officers, R.E. ...      | 11 "       |
| Maid Marian, Mr. J. Hastings ... |                         | 11 "       |

B CLASS.

| Names        | Owners                  | Rating       |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Marjorie ... | Mr. A. Denison ...      | Allows.      |
| Thistle ...  | Mr. H. E. Mackenzie ... | 3 m. 18 sec. |
| Dart ...     | Dr. Clark ...           | 6 " 27 "     |
| Payne ...    | Officers, R.E. ...      | 6 " 27 "     |
| Ladybird ... | C. D. Wilkinson ...     | 6 " 27 "     |
| Princess ... | Officers, R.A. ...      | 6 " 27 "     |
| Sybil ...    | Capt. Bewley ...        | 6 " 38 "     |
| Meteor ...   | Mr. C. H. W. Kew ...    | 7 " 00 "     |

The result was as follows:—

A CLASS.

|                 | H. | M. | S. |     |
|-----------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Maid Marian ... | 3  | 21 | 53 | 1st |
| Bonito ...      | 3  | 23 | 09 | —   |
| Erica ...       | 3  | 22 | 54 | —   |

B CLASS.

|              | H. | M. | S. |     |
|--------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Meteor ...   | 3  | 18 | 10 | 1st |
| Ladybird ... | 3  | 20 | 54 | —   |
| Sybil ...    | 3  | 23 | 02 | —   |

SAILING RACE.

FOR ALL OPEN BOATS; any rig, Chinese-owned boats excluded; time allowance, 10 seconds per foot in length of boat per mile; length of boat to be stated; entrance, \$2; prize, \$25. Course, 9 miles.

| Boat                   | Length     | Time            | Rating  |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------|
| Robilla's Lifeboat ... | 32.6 feet. |                 | Allows. |
| Orlando's Galley ...   | 30.0 "     | 3 min. 45 secs. |         |
| Tamar's Cutter ...     | 30.0 "     | 3 " 45 "        |         |
| Police Gig ...         | 26.0 "     | 9 " 45 "        |         |
| Gap Rock ...           | 20.0 "     | 18 " 45 "       |         |
| Lillian ...            | 19.0 "     | 20 " 15 "       |         |
| Tamar's Skiff 1 ...    | 18.0 "     | 21 " 45 "       |         |
| Tamar's Skiff 2 ...    | 18.0 "     | 21 " 45 "       |         |
| Roland ...             | 16.0 "     | 24 " 45 "       |         |
| Commodore's Skiff ...  | 14.4 "     | 27 " 00 "       |         |

The race was won by the Tamar's cutter.

SECOND DAY, WEDNESDAY, 20TH DECEMBER.

The proceedings of the second day's Regatta opened in dull and cloudy weather with a drizzling rain at intervals, which, however, cleared away during the latter part of the after.



noon. No doubt the threatening weather prevented many of the less enthusiastic from putting in an appearance, and as a consequence the attendance was not nearly so large as on the previous day. The band of the Hongkong Regiment was again in attendance and discoursed selections during the intervals. The most important event of the day was the race for the International Cup, for which only two boats entered, Scotch and Portuguese. Previous to the start speculation ran high between the nationals of the competing crews as to the result. After a well contested race the honours fell to the Scotch. The race for men-of-war gigs and whalers was also full of interest, the competitors representing five British men-of-war and one German. The result was a hard struggle between the German and the Whiting's and Orlando's boats, the Orlando's getting home first with the German boat a quarter of a length behind. The Whiting got across the line third, but was awarded second place on time allowance, having fewer oars than the German.

**LIGHT GIGS;** open to regular Chinese crews of the same hong or office; boats must carry a European coxswain; distance, one mile; time for oars, 8 seconds per oar; first prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; winner of No. 1 race first day excluded; boats to be passed by the Committee. Post entries.

Joan ... 1  
Majorie ... 2

Both got away on a good start, each crew pulling well. At the coal depot Joan held the lead by a length, and the position remained the same to the winning post. Time, 6 min. 46 secs.

**INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE CUP;** for four-oars; cup presented by the late J. S. Lapraik, Esq., to be held by the winning crew for one year; but to remain the property of the Club; distance, one-mile-and-a-quarter; entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

**SCOTCH.—THISTLE.** ... 1

|                      |     |      |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, Albert Ellis    | st. | lbs. |
| 2, W. A. Stopani     | 11  | 12   |
| 3, J. McMurtrie      | 12  | 07   |
| Stroke, W. Armstrong | 12  | 10   |
| Cox, G. A. Caldwell  | 10  | 0    |

**PORTUGUESE.—ROSE.** ... 2

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. H. Hyndman  | st. | lbs. |
| 2, A. Loureiro      | 9   | 0    |
| 3, A. E. Alves      | 10  | 10   |
| Stroke, A. A. Alves | 11  | 2    |
| Cox, F. W. White    | 11  | 5    |
|                     | 10  | 0    |

The Scots shot ahead at the start, steadily increasing their lead to a length before reaching the coal depot, when the Portuguese put on a spurt and continued to close up on their opponents right up to the flagship, but were unable to place themselves on a level. The Scots winning a most interesting and well contested race by about a quarter of a length. Time, 8 min. 21½ secs.

**LIGHT GIGS;** open to European Non-Commissioned Officers and men of any Regiment or Corps of the garrison or to European crews of any of H.M. vessels or to European members of the police force; entrance, \$1; distance, one mile; boats to be approved of by the Committee; time allowance, 8 seconds per oar; four boats must start for 2 prizes; winning crew of 3rd race first day to be handicapped by the Committee; 1st prize, \$15; 2nd prize, \$10.

Victoria (R.E.) ... 1  
Marjorie (R.N.) ... 2

Two boats entered, manned by representatives of the R.E. and R.N. respectively. A good race took place, the R.E. winning notwithstanding a penalty of 18 secs. Time, 6 min. 36½ secs.

**SAMPANS;** open to regular Chinese sampans; distance, half-mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5; eight boats to start for 2 prizes. Winner of No. 9, first day, excluded.

2821 ... 1  
2851 ... 2  
2537 ... 0  
2887 ... 0

Four boats competed in this race, all getting a good start. 2821 soon got to the fore and

remained so throughout, winning a comparatively easy race. Time, 6 min 15½ secs.

**GERMAN CUP;** presented by the members of the Club Germania; for four-oars; distance, one mile; entrance, \$10. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

**ROSE.** ... 1

|                          |     |      |
|--------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. Humphreys        | st. | lbs. |
| 2, A. E. Asgar           | 10  | 0    |
| 3, J. Millar             | 9   | 8    |
| Stroke, J. A. Fredericks | 9   | 9    |
| Cox, F. Lammert          | 10  | 10   |
|                          | 10  | 9    |

**SHAMROCK.** ... 2

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. H. Hyndman  | st. | lbs. |
| 2, A. Loureiro      | 9   | 0    |
| 3, A. E. Alves      | 10  | 10   |
| Stroke, A. A. Alves | 11  | 2    |
| Cox, F. W. White    | 11  | 5    |
|                     | 10  | 0    |

**LEEK.** ... 3

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, C. E. A. Hance | st. | lbs. |
| 2, O. J. Ellis      | 11  | 0    |
| 3, W. S. Bailey     | 10  | 12   |
| Stroke, J. Hance    | 10  | 0    |
| Cox, H. M. Bain     | 10  | 0    |

**KORNBLUME.** ... 0

|                       |     |      |
|-----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, H. A. Seth       | st. | lbs. |
| 2, F. M. Roza Pereira | 9   | 0    |
| 3, W. Watson          | 10  | 5    |
| Stroke, R. Lapsley    | 11  | 2    |
| Cox, S. A. Seth       | 11  | 5    |
|                       | 10  | 0    |

**THISTLE.** ... 0

|                      |     |      |
|----------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, Albert Ellis    | st. | lbs. |
| 2, W. A. Stopani     | 11  | 12   |
| 3, J. McMurtrie      | 12  | 7    |
| Stroke, W. Armstrong | 12  | 10   |
| Cox, G. A. Caldwell  | 12  | 10   |
|                      | 10  | 0    |

An excellent start was made, but shortly afterwards the bow of Kornblume caught a crab and the boat lost much ground before he recovered. The Rose slowly worked into the lead and was still in front passing the coal wharf with Shamrock about a length behind. Passing the Naval Yard the Thistle gave up. On nearing the Ducks the Shamrock tried to pull up with a spurt, but failed to reduce the space on the Rose, who secured the victory by a couple of lengths. Time, 6 min. 34½ secs.

**FOR MEN-OF-WAR'S GIGS AND WHALERS:** distance, One Mile. Entrance, \$1. First Prize, \$15; Second, \$5. The Boats to be approved by the Committee. Time allowed for oars, 8 seconds per oar. Three Boats must start or no race. Post entries.

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Orlando  | 1 |
| Whiting  | 2 |
| Hansa    | 3 |
| Barfleur | 0 |
| Hart     | 0 |
| Handy    | 0 |

A good start was made with the exception of the Handy, which was a little slow in getting under way. A splendid race ensued. Passing the coal depot the Orlando, Whiting, and German were neck and neck with the Barfleur a boat's length in rear, while the Handy and Hart were slowly falling behind. A hard tussle followed between the three first named, who remained almost in the same position to the naval yard, finishing with Orlando first. The German was second, but the Whiting secured second place on time allowance. A quarter of a length only between first and second. Time 8 min. 24 secs.

**SNAKE BOATS;** open to Chinese snake boats; distance, one mile; 1st prize, \$10; 2nd prize, \$5. Eight boats to start for two prizes; winner, No. 4 race first day excluded.

Eight boats entered for this event, which proved exciting to the contestants and also to their friends, who lined the beach and cheered them on to victory. Time 4 min. 4½ secs.

**CHINESE CUP;** griffin's race; for four oars; presented by the Chinese Community of Hongkong; open to members and subscribers of the Victoria Recreation Club who have never won a race at a regatta; distance, one mile; entrance, \$5. To be rowed in boats the property of the Victoria Recreation Club.

**KORNBLUME.** ... 1

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, F. G. Chu nett | st. | lbs. |
| 2, H. S. Bevan      | 9   | 0    |
| 3, C. Benjamin      | 10  | 6    |
| Stroke, R. Lapsley  | 9   | 9    |
| Cox, S. A. Seth     | 11  | 5    |
|                     | 10  | 0    |

**ROSE.** ... 2

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, E. S. Ford     | st. | lbs. |
| 2, S. R. Moore      | 9   | 0    |
| 3, A. Humphreys     | 10  | 0    |
| Stroke, M. E. Asgar | 9   | 12   |
| Cox, F. Lammert     | 9   | 8    |
|                     | 10  | 9    |

**LEEK.** ... 3

|                   |     |      |
|-------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, L. A. Ozorio | st. | lbs. |
| 2, J. de Barros   | 9   | 10   |
| 3, F. Garrett     | 8   | 10   |
| Stroke, W. Watson | 11  | 0    |
| Cox, A. E. Alves  | 11  | 2    |
|                   | 11  | 2    |

**SHAMROCK.** ... 0

|                     |     |      |
|---------------------|-----|------|
| Bow                 | st. | lbs. |
| 2, H. Craig         | 8   | 8    |
| 3, W. S. Bailey     | 11  | 8    |
| Stroke, J. C. Logan | 10  | 12   |
| Cox, E. Herbst      | 10  | 9    |
|                     | 10  | 0    |

**THISTLE.** ... 0

|                              |     |      |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| Bow, A. M. Roza Pereira jun. | st. | lbs. |
| 2, K. Basa                   | 9   | 4    |
| 3, C. D. Silas               | 9   | 8    |
| Stroke, F. D. Bain           | 9   | 6    |
| Cox, F. W. White             | 9   | 2    |
|                              | 10  | 0    |

All got away together with the exception of Kornblume which was a little slow at the start, she however, soon regained her position and finally took the lead, winning by a length ahead of Rose, and two lengths ahead of Leek. Time, 7 min. 43½ secs.

## HONGKONG FOOTBALL SHIELD COMPETITION.

### FIRST ROUND.

88TH CO., S.D., ROYAL ARTILLERY V. "A"  
CO. ROYAL WELCH FUSILIERS.

### BY QUIDNUNC.

There was a good attendance at the Hongkong Football Club's ground on Saturday to witness the above match. As the 39th Co. figured in last season's final and A is one of the crack company teams of the Fusiliers, an even contest was expected.

The following were the players:—

38th S.D., R.A.:—Murphy, goal; Wilson and P. S. Bell, backs; Brown, Kelly, and Gidman, halves; and Richardson, Milne, Frost, Lieut. Greene, and Stiles, forwards.

A Co. R.W.F.:—Rhodes, goal; Bellis and Phillips, backs; Stone, Deagan, and Jones, halves; and Allen, Jones, Stevens, Neill, and Demery, forwards.

Mr. H. W. Looker acted as referee.

No sooner was the ball kicked off than the Artillery went away with a rush and scored, their outside right getting the ball in the net before apparently the Fusiliers realized that the game was started. The Welchmen when the ball was centred went straight away to their opponents' goal and were within an ace of equalizing, but unluckily for them their shot went the wrong side of the post. They pressed the gunners for some little time, but were unable to score; then the Artillery had the upper hand. The gunners' forwards did not manoeuvre the ball so well as those of the Fusiliers, but they were heavier and had more dash. One of their rushes enabled them to add another goal to their score; then the Welchmen woke up and put on some pressure.

At this point Brown, the right half of the Artillery, hurt his leg in some way and had to be helped from the field. The Fusiliers profited by this and attacked very strongly. Demery, outside left, put in some excellent work on his wing, and had very hard lines with a beautiful long shot. The Welch were extremely unfortunate in not scoring at this stage, as they attacked persistently. Not long after the Artillery man's injury Neill of the Fusiliers slipped and also damaged his leg, both accidents occurring in almost the identical spot. Although he



attempted to resume a couple of times his leg was too weak so practically the game was played with only ten men a side.

The Welch continued to have the best of the play. Demery again putting in a grand but unsuccessful shot. At last their efforts were rewarded. Allen, their outside right, made a good run down the wing and finished with an excellent centre. Demery was lying close in and received the ball, making no mistake with his shot.

Half time, 38th Co. ... 2 goals  
A Co. R.W.F. ... 1 goal

On resuming the Welch again took up the running. They had a great scrimmage in the gunners' goal, but could not get the ball through. Returning to the attack Murphy had to run out of the Artillery goal to kick clear. He kicked the ball, which when dropping he had great difficulty in keeping from between the posts. So pressed was he that he was glad to escape by conceding a corner, fisting the ball over the goal line. The Artillery then got to the other end and the Welch goalkeeper was penalized for running with the ball, but nothing serious resulted. The Artillery pressed for a little, Stiles sending in a good shot which Rhodes, however, saved. As the game went on the Welch strove harder, but had bad luck and a good defence against them. Allen got in a nice centre, which Jones (inside left) took smartly with his head, striking the cross bar—very hard lines. Continuing to press they shot in about half-a-dozen times in quick succession from quite close in, striking the post once, but were unable to find the net. They obtained several corners, but could not draw level, the game ending.

38th S.D., R.A. ... 2 goals  
A Co. R.W.F. ... 1 goal

I felt sorry for the Welshmen, for although the score was against them they certainly had the bulk of the play.

Both the Artillery's goals were obtained early in the game; then afterwards to the end the Fusiliers had decidedly the best of it, particularly towards the finish, when the gunners could hardly get away from their own goal line.

The Artillery had the advantage in weight, and their forwards were more dangerous when within shooting distance. The Fusiliers were much cleverer in the forward line than their opponents, Demery and Jones, the first named especially, being prominent, but they were not smart enough in taking their openings.

The game was very interesting and was free from rough and foul play. The only transgressor I noticed was Milne (Artillery), who, after Brown was hurt, went right half back. This player finding Demery rather difficult to manage, stopped his career now and gain by tripping him up. There was no blame attaching to anyone for either of the accidents.

#### FOOTBALL.

The tie in the first round for the Hongkong Football Challenge Shield between the two companies of the Royal Welch Fusiliers D and H was duly brought off on 15th inst. Mr. F. Browne officiating as referee. Whatever chance D had was spoilt by their playing throughout with only ten men. At the interval H. led by three goals to one, and during the second half they continued to monopolize the play, adding four points against one scored by their opponents. Result—H. Co. R.W.F. 7 goals, D. Co. R.W.F. 2 goals. There was a rather strong wind blowing, which did not tend to improve the play, but anyhow the game was too one-sided to be interesting.

The football match under Association rules played on Monday, between the Hongkong Football Club and the Officers of the Navy, was not a great game. An injury to the leg prevented Chad, Kew appearing for the Club, and they were also short of Pinckney and Ross. In the first half they had most of the game and Noble notched two goals, but after the interval the Officers showed up better and near the end obtained a point, the match thus ending—Club 2, Officers of the Navy 1.

The Hongkong Football Club's A team beat H.M.S. Orlando on Wednesday by two goals to one. The Orlando made their score immediately the game was started, but the Club did not get its points until well on in the second half. In the first half Pemberton (Club) sustained damage that prevented his taking further part in the

match, whilst early in the second half one of the Navy men had his knee put out and had to be carried from the field. There have been quite a number of casualties on the football field lately; none, however, that have come to our notice, we are pleased to say, have been due to rough play.

The Royal Engineers and the Victoria Recreation Club met in a friendly game of football on Thursday. Throughout the R.E. attacked, but the V.R.C.'s defence was very sturdy. Chunnett, the goal-keeper, performing excellently. The Engineers' forwards behaved very poorly in front of goal. They had innumerable chances but were only able to get one point put through near the end of the game. Result:—Royal Engineers 1 goal, V.R.C. nil. The V.R.C. had about half a dozen new men playing who have just arrived from Calcutta, some of them having good reputations as Rugby players. Although as yet they don't understand Association tactics very well, they are young, have stamina and speed, and no doubt when sufficiently practised will make a very serviceable addition to the Recreation Club's membership. Just now we are afraid they are too inexperienced in soccer to be of assistance to the V.R.C. in their Shield tie. In the second half of the match Seth, of the V.R.C., had the misfortune to have his elbow put out of joint, and although it was put back he was unable to resume.

#### FOOTBALL NOTES.

BY QUIDNUNC.

18th December.

Results:—

#### ASSOCIATION.

Monday, 11th Dec.  
Royal Welch Fusiliers (Regimental team) 4 goals, Hongkong F.C. 2 goals.

Wednesday, 13th Dec.  
Officers H. M. S. Barfleur 1 goal, Hongkong F.C.A. team nil

25th Co. S.D., R.A. 4 goals, Royal Engineers nil

Thursday, 14th Dec.  
H.M.S. Barfleur 1 goal, 25th Co. S.D., R.A., nil

Friday, 15th Dec.  
(Shield tie)  
H Co. R.W.F. 7 goals, D Co. R.W.F. 2 goals

Saturday, 16th Dec.  
(Shield tie)  
38th Co. S.D., R.A., 2 goals, A Co. R.W.F. 1 goal

Engineers' Institute nil, 25th, S.D., R.A., nil

#### RUGBY.

Thursday, 14th Dec.  
Hongkong F.C. 1 goal 6 tries=23 points.  
Royal Welch Fusiliers nil.

Although the Shield Competition has hardly started yet the football epidemic may be said to be raging, as witness the above list of matches played during the week. The teams, or most of them, will not be able to plead lack of practice when they meet reverses in the competition.

Although the Barfleur team is not competing for the shield it turns out regularly in friendly games. Its performances stamp it as a thoroughly good eleven and its non-inclusion in the contests will lessen somewhat the honour due the shield winners, whoever they may be.

The 25th Co. S.D., R.A. (finalists for shield the season before last) are putting in a great deal of training and make no secret of their intentions regarding the Shield. During the week they played three stiff matches and, in addition to this, I hear, they put in some morning runs. I think they will find they are over doing it a trifle, for if work is continued at this rate they will soon become "stale." A team that takes on its task in such a whole hearted manner and with such confidence will certainly be hard to beat. If it does not achieve success it at least will deserve it.

The match between the Engineers' Institute and the 25th S.D., R.A., on Saturday was spoilt by an unfortunate accident. About five minutes after the game started Galt had an awkward tumble. He fell with his arm beneath him and snapped the bone of the forearm. Luckily Tuohy, of the Civil Hospital, was one of players. He set and bound up the arm and then got off his patient to the hospital. There was no one to blame for the occurrence. The game was resumed, only fifteen minutes each way, however, being played. Although the

Engineers had only ten men and also were short of Lapaley and Smillie they had it anything the best of matters, but nothing was scored by either team.

The unfortunate accident to Galt will deprive the Engineers of a smart and energetic forward. I sympathize very much with the player and also with his team.

It is a pity that so many of the Hongkong Football Club's players will not be taking part in the shield competition. There seems a tendency now for all the young civilians who arrive here, if they have ever seen a football before or perhaps been struck by one, to join the Club, instead of a weaker organization, for which they would be more fitted. Young men of energy, one would think, would prefer taking part in a competition, even for a poor team, to being spectators.

When I heard that the Royal Engineers had been beaten on Wednesday by the 25th Co. S.D. by four goals to nothing I was a bit surprised, but I have been informed since that the R.E. played with three or four substitutes, so this in a manner explains.

How difficult it is to follow football "form" may be judged by the following results, all of games played this season:—

Club beat Barfleur 2-0  
R.E. do Club 2-1  
25th S.D., R.A. beat R.E. 4-0

From which one would expect that the 25th S.D. would give the Barfleur an awful flogging, but instead we have the following:—

Barfleur 1 goal, 25th S.D., R.A., nil.

#### CRICKET.

##### LONGS V. SHORTS.

The "Longs" of the Hongkong C.C. met the "Shorts" of the same club on Saturday afternoon and had far the best of the game, scoring 238 in the first innings against 73. This result was largely due to the excellent batting of Lieutenant Hill (66), Dr. Lowson (57), and Mr. Woodgates (41). Lieutenant Hill's score comprised one 6, nine 4's, three 2's, and fourteen 1's; the Doctor's six 4's, two 3's, five 2's, and seventeen 1's; and Mr. Woodgates' one 6, five 4's, four 2's, and seven 1's. In the first innings 19, compiled by Mr. Maitland, was the highest score for the "Shorts," Dr. Atkinson putting together 31 (not out) for them in the second innings. Score:—

##### THE LONGS.

###### First Innings.

|                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----|
| Capt. Langhorne, R.A., c sub, b Wild         | 13  |
| A. Mackenzie, b Lee                          | 5   |
| Dr. Lowson (capt.), c and b Johnson          | 57  |
| Lieut. Hill, R.W.F., st Wright, b Buttanshaw | 66  |
| Rev. G. R. Vallings, b Wild                  | 10  |
| H. B. Hancock, b Johnson                     | 22  |
| J. A. Woodgates, c Green, b Cox              | 41  |
| Lt. Ball-Aston, R.W.F., c Wright, b Johnson  | 8   |
| H. Mast, b Cox                               | 2   |
| L. E. Lammert, b Lee                         | 5   |
| S. L. Stevens, c Johnson, b Cox              | 0   |
| Lieut. Wilkinson, R.A., not out              | 0   |
| Extras                                       | 9   |
| Total                                        | 238 |

##### THE SHORTS.

###### First Innings.

|                                         |    |
|-----------------------------------------|----|
| K. W. Mounsey, b Vallings               | 13 |
| P. N. Wright, R.N., b Vallings          | 1  |
| Major Buttanshaw, A.S.C., c Lammert     | 0  |
| Woodgates                               | 0  |
| F. Maitland (capt.), b Lowson           | 19 |
| R. B. Johnson, R.W.F., c and b Vallings | 0  |
| r. Tuck, R.N., c Lammert, b Lowson      | 1  |
| P. A. Cox, c Hancock, b Lowson          | 0  |
| J. Wild, b Vallings                     | 4  |
| J. Lee, b Vallings                      | 0  |
| Dr. Atkinson, c Hill, b Lowson          | 2  |
| H. E. Green, c Woodgates, b Hancock     | 8  |
| H. E. Silk, R.N., not out               | 9  |
| Extras                                  | 5  |
| Total                                   | 73 |

##### SECOND INNINGS.

###### Second Innings.

|                                        |    |
|----------------------------------------|----|
| Dr. Atkinson, not out                  | 31 |
| H. E. Silk, R.N., c and b Mackenzie    | 6  |
| P. N. Wright, R.N., b Mackenzie        | 0  |
| P. A. Cox, b Woodgates                 | 0  |
| K. W. Mounsey, c Vallings, b Woodgates | 0  |
| Major Buttanshaw, c sub, b Lammert     | 4  |
| F. Maitland                            | 0  |
| R. B. Johnson, R.W.F., } did not bat   |    |
| Dr. Tuck, R.N., }                      |    |
| J. Wild, not out                       | 0  |
| H. E. Green, } did not bat             |    |
| J. Lee, }                              |    |
| Extras                                 | 7  |
| Total                                  | 54 |



## BOWLING ANALYSIS.

## THE LONGS.

## First Innings.

|                  | Overs. | Maid. | Runs. | Wides. | N.B. | Wickets. |
|------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|------|----------|
| Lee.....         | 15.2   | 4     | 39    | —      | —    | 2        |
| Wild .....       | 10     | —     | 46    | —      | —    | 2        |
| Cox .....        | 12     | —     | 44    | —      | —    | 3        |
| Maitland .....   | 1      | —     | 10    | —      | —    | —        |
| Green.....       | 3      | —     | 25    | —      | —    | —        |
| Buttarslaw ..... | 7.2    | 1     | 32    | —      | 1    | 1        |
| Johnson.....     | 0      | 2     | 31    | —      | —    | 3        |

## SH. RTS.

## First Innings.

|                | Overs. | Maid. | Runs. | Wides. | N.B. | Wickets. |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|------|----------|
| Woodgates..... | 8      | 1     | 24    | —      | —    | 1        |
| Vallings.....  | 16.1   | 5     | 30    | —      | —    | 5        |
| Lowson.....    | 8      | 3     | 12    | —      | —    | 4        |
| Hancock .....  | 0.2    | —     | 2     | —      | —    | 1        |

## Second Innings.

|                | Overs. | Maid. | Runs. | Wides. | N.B. | Wickets. |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|------|----------|
| Mast .....     | 4      | —     | 17    | —      | —    | —        |
| Mackenzie..... | 6      | 2     | 12    | —      | —    | 2        |
| Woodgates..... | 4      | —     | 10    | —      | —    | 2        |
| Lammert .....  | 2      | —     | 8     | —      | —    | 1        |

## HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

"A" MACHINE GUN CO MONTHLY  
CARBINE COMPETITION.

|                        | 200 yds. | 300 yds. | 400 yds. | 500 yds. | H'cap. | Total. |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|
| Gunner Mayson*         | 26       | 30       | 28       | 17       | 101    |        |
| Sergt. Lammert*        | 29       | 32       | 34       | 30       | 95     |        |
| Gunner Hursthouse*     | 25       | 23       | 27       | 19       | 94     |        |
| Corpl. Nicholson ..... | 19       | 30       | 20       | 22       | 91     |        |
| Gunner Wodehouse ..... | 18       | 26       | 26       | 10       | 80     |        |
| Lient. Maitland .....  | 19       | 31       | 20       | 10       | 80     |        |
| Gunner Morrell .....   | 24       | 22       | 10       | 23       | 79     |        |
| Bomb King.....         | 19       | 24       | 13       | 21       | 77     |        |
| Capt. Sanders .....    | 22       | 14       | 22       | 16       | 74     |        |
| Gunner Danby .....     | 15       | 23       | 10       | 25       | 73     |        |

Fifteen members took part in above competition.

Gunner Mayson registered his first win on Nos. 1 and 2 cups.

\* Winners of spoons.

## FOOCHOW RACES.

## [FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Once more the Foochow Races have come and gone and the Fokkien Race Club has every reason to feel that they have been a success. At one time it looked as though there would be no races this winter, but at the eleventh hour folks were induced to take an interest in the thing and the result has been one of the best meetings of recent years. On all three days the weather was beautifully fine—perhaps a trifle too fine and hot—and the state of the course was excellent. Practically all the ladies at present resident in Foochow (except the missionaries) graced the grand stand with their presence, and there were also a few ladies from other ports, while the Chinese trooped up by thousands, forming a very interested and good tempered crowd. On the first day the race that excited the most interest was that for the Edgar Challenge Cup, the favourite at starting being Mr. Oswald's Sirius, who, however, was only able to secure second place. For the Kuliang Stakes there was quite a large field, comparatively speaking, and the race was watched with keen interest. Buff was in a very gay and festive mood and before a start could be made had to be taken for a little tour right round the course, but for all that managed to get home first in almost record time. One of the other ponies appeared to think the course lay over the fence and that he could do better without a rider. On the third day, when the Champion Stakes was being run, Sirius was in great form, but when a start was about to be made he simply took charge and bolted off right round the turf on his own account. After much trouble he was brought back and a start of a sort was made, but it being decided that it was not as it ought to have been they were all brought back again, but it was not until Sirius had been three and a half times round and had nearly pulled his jockey's arms off that a fair start was effected. As after all his little games Sirius came in a good second, it is not hard to guess who would have been first under happier circumstances. The last race was not over until 5-45, when it was getting so dark that many people suggested

that the stewards should bring the candles along.

There was no music or side shows of any kind except the totalisator and the bar, but the energetic clerk of the course galloping hither and thither armed with a big whip clearing the way for each race was in himself as good as a band and a Tommy Dodd table or two.

Next night there was the Race Ball at the Club, which must also be described as a success. The large room upstairs was decorated with flags and racing jackets and caps and looked very nice. The gentlemen were in the majority, but there were sufficient ladies dancing to comfortably fill the room. In conversation one very old resident said she could remember the time when Foochow could only muster up three ladies for a ball! Supper was served at midnight, and, judging from the quantity of happy laughter and chatter that was indulged in it is tolerably safe to assume that the guests were having what our American friends would call a real good time. After supper dancing was resumed and carried on with spirit until a late (or rather early) hour.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

## A QUESTION OF CHARITY.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

DEAR SIR,—Not having sufficient mental powers of comprehension, I appeal to you and your numerous readers to assist me in solving a problem which has puzzled me for the last few days. I observe from your valuable paper that donations are solicited for two charitable purposes, both equally worthy in their object, viz., the Tung Wa Hospital Extension Fund and the South African Fund, and that a Chinese resident has contributed \$100 to the former fund and \$5,000 to the latter. On a careful inspection of the two subscription lists, I observe that the European institutions and the leading and wealthy members of the European community have either contributed equal amounts to both the funds or given a little more to the South African Fund than to the Tung Wa, which is quite natural, and no doubt following the old precept of "Charity begins at home, but in the case cited above it is quite the reverse. I do not for a moment say that the contributor has given too much to the South African Fund, because he can well afford it and it is the duty of every citizen here to contribute liberally towards this fund, but what I do not understand is why he has contributed so little to the Tung Wa Extension Fund.

If you or your readers can enlighten me on this subject I shall feel obliged—Yours faithfully,

## CHARITY.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1899.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Sir,—In answer to "Charity's" appeal to you to "solve a problem" for him, which his "insufficient powers of comprehension" render him unable to cope with, I should like to ask when and why he got authority to constitute himself a censor of public subscription lists.—Yours sincerely,

## INDIGNANT.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1899.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent who signs himself "Charity" must be a most inquisitive being. Myself, and probably a good many of your readers, would like to know why a Chinaman giving more to the Patriotic Fund than to a local hospital should require to explain his reason for so doing or have the reason solved for him. It appears to me the cause deserves the proportionate increase in his charity, as the immediate sufferings of the families caused by the casualties which have occurred in South Africa must be a case of much more urgency than the building of a farther hospital, and I am sure Britishers are exceedingly pleased to see, by the amount that the Chinese have given to the fund, that they understand the benefits they receive under British rule, and show their gratitude by sympathizing with us in times of trouble. I

am not surprised that your correspondent should acknowledge himself to be of weak intellect, but I am truly surprised that a paper of your standing should have published such downright impudence.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

M. B. G.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1899.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

Dear Sir.—As your correspondents "Indignant" and "M. B. G." seem to have misunderstood the purport of my letter to your paper of the 19th instant, I beg of you to allow me space to make an explanation. It was not my intention to create any invidious comparison between the two Funds in question, much less to influence public subscriptions to the detriment of the South African Fund, which merits not only the liberal donations of British residents of Hongkong, but also of the entire mass of people living and prospering under the aegis of the British Government, and I may say that I have personally contributed equal amounts to both funds. It might be mentioned that as regards the proportionate extent of the help rendered, your correspondent "M. B. G." should remember that in point of fact the charity extended to the South African Fund now becomes a national one and as such touches the tender chord of benevolence throughout the length and breadth of the vast British Empire, whereas the Tung Wa is an institution dependent almost entirely upon local charity and has merits of its own which lay strong claims upon the public of Hongkong and especially the native section of this community. Can "M. B. G." say that to support a Fund which is utilized for the relief of the sufferings of the sick and also for helping the Government to treat plague patients with a view to stamping out the plague from this colony is not also a mark of appreciation of the benefits the Chinese receive under British rule?—Yours faithfully,

## CHARITY.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1899.

## SCARCITY OF COPPER CURRENCY.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Notwithstanding the fact that the prices of all necessities of life have been tremendously enhanced of late, there is another murderous item of expenditure and one which with a little foresight could be avoided. I refer to the present scarcity of coppers, which affords an opportunity for the Chinese shopkeepers and money changers to levy a tax of 4 per cent. when silver is exchanged for copper. To prevent a recurrence of this the powers that be should keep on hand an inexhaustible supply of coins of all values to meet public requirements. Now that subscriptions are running for two most meritorious objects, would it not be well to help a little by reducing prices for all staple food; even to keep them stationary and stop this continual rising would be something. Coolies get paid in silver, and it is a pity they lose on converting it into copper, thus adding to the killing cost of living. It is no wonder they live on less and poorer food and court disease.—Yours truly,

## EXCHANGE.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1899.

P.S.—The above refers more particularly to the Chinese population, who will rather suffer in silence than prosecute their fellow countryman with lots of police trouble to boot.

## THE TRADE OF NEWCHWANG

## THE EFFECT OF RUSSIA'S ADVANCE.

Messrs Noel, Murray and Co., in their piece goods trade report dated Shanghai, 7th December, say:—

We are able to publish this week on page 1195 the usual comparative table of re-exports to Newchwang, from which will be noticed the really startling progress the trade with that port has made during the past season. This certainly is a strong refutation of the fears that have been so freely expressed of the baneful influence to be expected from the incursions of the Russians into the Northern Provinces of China. The prosperity of the country must be improving by leaps and bounds, for the figures pub-



lished show, not only an increase in the heavy makes of goods, that might be required for the use of the coolies engaged on railway works, but also in almost every article, many of which can only be treated as luxuries. It seems to us that this is an earnest of what might be expected in all parts of the country so soon as railways are generally introduced, no matter by whose money and influence they are built. The vast possibilities of this country, when it is properly opened up, are only foreshadowed, but unfortunately the necessary confidence in the integrity of its Government has not yet been established.

### SERIOUS CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED ARSON IN SHANGHAI.

#### INSURANCE COMPANY'S LAXITY.

Shanghai, 11th December.

Another instance of the gross carelessness with which the local agents of various fire insurance companies accept risks on rickety native shops and dwellings was made apparent at the Mixed Court this morning before Mr. S. F. Mayers (British Assessor) and the Magistrate. Inspector Matheson prosecuted a Chinese shop-keeper who was caught redhanded setting fire to No. 1 Shantung Road under the following circumstances. Accused, the occupant of a cookshop, 119 Sungkiang Road, which adjoins No. 1 Shantung Road, was on his own confession a poor man and indebted to the extent of \$600. He crossed his own back-yard scaling a ladder entered an empty room at the rear of the Shantung Road. He produced a quantity of cotton wool carefully saturated with kerosene, which he placed against the wooden partition dividing the two houses and was in the act of setting it alight when he was discovered and promptly handed over to the police. When arrested his clothes were damp with the kerosene which he had carried up the ladder in a brass kettle.

Contrary to general custom prisoner admitted the crime and in effect pleaded that poverty and the possibility of obtaining Tls. 900 for which he was insured led him to commit the deed.

The Court sentenced him to twelve months imprisonment.

Had prisoner succeeded in his nefarious designs, a most serious fire must have been the result having regard to the congested character of the district. The value of the goods insured by the accused we are credibly informed would fall far short of \$200, so that in effecting an insurance some six times the amount it is obvious that the Insurance Company concerned place a positive premium on arson.—*China Gazette*.

### THE STRAITS GOVERNORSHIP.

By the death of His Excellency Sir C. B. H. Mitchell, G.C.M.G. the office of Governor of the Straits settlements having become vacant, the administration of the Government in accordance with Her Majesty's Letters Patent, devolves upon the Senior Civil Member of the Executive Council present in the Colony, Sir Alexander Swettenham, K.C.M.G., the Colonial Secretary.

An discussing the appointment of a new Governor the *Straits Times* says:—We mourn the dead; but still the world rolls on. It would be impossible to deny that the keenest interest exists as to who shall be the next Governor of the Straits Settlements. It is an important appointment, and it never was so important as it is now. The deciding factor in the present importance of the office is that there is proposed a combination of railway interests that shall connect Singapore and Penang with the whole of the Malay Peninsula, and shall ultimately form the basis of a great trunkline to India and to Europe. Further, the prosperity that permits this great investment on the part of the Federated Malay States and of the Straits Settlements is a prosperity that is very largely based on the tin-mining industry. Turning again from these local matters, we have to remember that the Governor of the Straits Settlements, who is Commissioner for the Malay States, is also the High Commissioner for Borneo. Borneo is a huge territory, and native troubles exist there, which must be handled with a firm grip. To-day

H. M. S. *Rattler*, taking on board thirty marines from the *Hermiton*, sailed out to Borneo to land a party to save Labuan from thief, Mat Salleh, whom Mr. Cowie most foolishly patted on the back when he should have been hit on the head. If matters get serious, Mr. Clifford's temporary resource would be to ask the High Commissioner to send a body of Sikhs from the Federated Malay States. Therefore, at present, we greatly fear the advent of a stranger. We wish to have a Governor who knows Malaya, and who knows the Malay—a man of broad mind and generous instinct: a man whom we can trust because we know him. That man is Sir Frank Swettenham.

### THE JAPANESE IN CHINA.

At a meeting of the *To-a Dobun-kai* (East-Asian Fellow-thinkers) held in the Maple Club on the 2nd instant, Prince Konoye spoke of the impressions produced on him by his recent trip to China. He was struck above all things by the hugeness and the vast material resources of the empire, and he saw many opportunities for Japanese industrial and commercial enterprise—opportunities which ought to be utilized, since Japan can never hope to be prosperous by means of agriculture only. At the same time, he observed, with satisfaction, that there were signs of Japanese activity in the south of China. Formerly such of his countrymen as might be seen there were of the out-at-elbow, adventurer class, but respectable men were now making their appearance in Canton and elsewhere, and it was a fair presumption that they did not go there for nothing. With regard to the often-noted fact that the Japanese have not made any use of the facilities obtained for them by the negotiators of the Shimonoseki Treaty, and that the special settlements allotted by the terms of that document are inhabited by weeds only, Prince Konoye found that in each of the towns adjacent to these settlements some thirty or forty Japanese were living. They did not attempt to take up land in the settlements, however, not because they lacked enterprise, but because it was obviously impossible for such small communities to bear the expense of occupying new lands in a place where considerable sums would have to be spent on roads, drains, lighting and other municipal necessities. The Government ought to come to their aid in these matters.—*Japan Mail*.

### FOOCHOW NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 11th December.

The little theatre at Foochow cannot in a general way be compared with the London Lyceum, but in some ways it can do as well as the best. In the hands of so energetic and genial a manager as Mr. Pennington, assisted by the Foochow Amateur Musical and Dramatic Society, it can be the means of affording a pleasant evening to practically the whole community, and even the Lyceum can do no more. Those who braved the darkness of our rural paths on Friday last to see the amateurs play "Alone" had no reason to be dissatisfied. Although the principles of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity are not so universally practiced as they might be, still everybody knows everybody else and is quite able to take an interest in the actors, not only as Dr. Strawless or Cousin Micklethwaite, but as old So and So. About the play itself there is really nothing to say, but the players all acquitted themselves in a highly creditable manner. The ladies all did well and it is difficult to decide to whom to award the palm, but Maude Trevor was the most difficult part and the rendering bore evidence both of care and talent, whilst Mrs. Thornton was portrayed with a quiet ease that was the subject of general praise. In the matter of make up and general metamorphosis perhaps the greatest success was scored by Dr. Micklethwaite a giddy young thing indeed on the stage as compared with the reverend, grave, and potent signor of every day life. Of course an old hand like Col. Challice might be relied upon to give a good account of himself and there can be no question as to his being a first rate amateur. Stratton Strawless, too, was in good hands and evoked the marked approval of his hearers, while

Bertie Cameron is to be congratulated upon his rendering of an unpopular character. The duties of the band were undertaken by two young ladies who relieved each other at the piano and in no small degree contributed to the success of the evening.

The cast was as follows:—

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Colonel Challice   | Mr. H. Schlee     |
| Stratton Strawless | Mr. Ronald Greig  |
| Bertie Cameron     | Mr. G. Ballach    |
| Dr. Micklethwaite  | Mr. R. R. Westall |
| Maude Trevor       | Miss Linklater    |
| Mrs. Thornton      | Miss Lay          |
| Maid               | Miss Mackinnan    |

### SAIGON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

SAIGON, 15th December.

Prince Waldemar of Denmark, who is coming out by the *Valkyrie*, is expected here about the middle of January and great festivities are being prepared. There is also a rumour that Prince Henry of Prussia may come at the same time. Amongst the festivities will be a gala representation in our new theatre, which is nearly finished and is really a splendid building. There not many towns in Europe with a theatre like ours. It covers the immense square between the old Theatre and the old Town Hall, and has cost over two million of francs. Saigon is really becoming a handsomer town every year. Amongst the new buildings the premises of the Public Works Department, in the Rue Pellerin, must be noted as a really artistic structure.

The Annamites are not very content with the new projects of our Governor-General, who now wants to put a tax on tobacco and betel nuts. Matches, salt, and alcohol are already taxed, but the project for the taxation of tobacco and betel nuts is unlikely to come into effect on account of its unpopularity.

Fortunately this year has been a very prosperous one. The quantity of rice exported will reach 2,000,000 piculs by the end of December, which will be the highest figure yet attained, and next year also promises a most abundant crop, notwithstanding which prices remain unusually high and the demand active. Planters are rich and can afford to wait.

Public opinion in Saigon is full of joy over the defeats of the English in South Africa. "What right have you to go there," people ask.

### CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

It is reported that the Canton authorities have received instructions from the Peking Government to consider whether it is advisable to make coins weighing respectively one tael, five mace, two mace, and one mace, instead of the present coins. The Viceroy has accordingly instructed the Provincial Treasurer, the Provincial Judge, the Grain Commissioner and the Salt Commissioner to make enquiries and to give reports of their own opinions.

Cases of notorious robbers demanding blackmail from the high officials have become more frequent, for the robbers, knowing that the mandarins are perfectly useless and powerless and may be easily frightened by menaces, purposely use such ways of asking blackmail from them as are calculated to weaken their inclination to take steps to root them out. A few days ago the duty collection station at Kong-mun received a letter from some notorious robbers demanding three thousand taels as blackmail and threatening to plunder and burn the station in case of refusal. The officials in charge of the station have reported the case to the Viceroy, who seems very much afraid to do anything against the robbers.

It is reported that the Viceroy has received several telegrams recently from the Tsungli Yamen with regard to the question of Kwang-chanwan. The details are kept very secret and are unknown.

Owing to failure of the rice crop in some districts, rice is exceedingly dear. The charitable institutions have opened subscriptions to purchase rice from other places to be sold in Canton at low prices to the poor people. The Viceroy has appropriated a sum from the Government Treasury to bring six hundred thousand piculs of rice from foreign countries and



has sent some officials to purchase the same from Wuhu and elsewhere.

On the 9th inst. a number of robbers who had just finished a depredation in some villages held a feast in a restaurant in Canton. The lukongs got wind of their appearance and at once went there to effect their arrest. When the lukongs got to the restaurant the robbers were quite surprised. Six robbers were accordingly caught and the rest made good their escape.

### HONGKONG.

There were 2,175 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 185 were Europeans.

The presentation of prizes at the Belilios Public School took place on Thursday afternoon. His Honour the Acting Chief Justice presiding.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Lieut. G. C. Fullerton, "A" Machine Gun Company, Hongkong Volunteer Corps, has been granted twelve months' leave of absence with effect from the 22nd November, 1899.

At the Magistracy on Thursday Mr. Gompertz held two more enquiries into suspected cases of opium poisoning, a verdict of suicide by opium poisoning being returned in each case. One case was that of Chnn Wa cook at the Opium Farmer's establishment at Samshui, and the other that of Leung Yau Tan, clerk in the employ of the Wharf and Godown Company.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H.E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint Saturday, the 23rd December, to be observed as a public holiday, and Tuesday, the 2nd January, as a holiday in the Government Departments, in addition to the following public holidays prescribed by section 6 of the Holidays Ordinance, 1877, viz.:—Christmas Day, the 26th December and the 1st January.

At the annual meeting in connection with the Church Missionary Society held in St. Paul's College on the 15th instant, the Bishop presiding, interesting addresses on mission work were delivered by the Rev. F. B. Beauchamp, of Pakhoi, and Miss Eyre, of Hongkong, both of whom have just returned from leave. Mr. Beauchamp touched upon the work among the lepers at Pakhoi, a work which was started in the year 1830. Of the four wards in the hospital two are occupied by men; one by boys, and the other is used as a school-room and chapel, there being 70 men in the hospital altogether. Miss Eyre spoke of the work which is going on among Chinese women in Hongkong, saying that the results of that work during the last two or three years were such as to rejoice their hearts. A few words appropriate to the occasion were also addressed by the Bishop. The committee was re-elected with the exception of Mrs. Piercy and Mrs. Holme, who had asked that they should not be re-appointed. It was left to the committee to fill up the vacancies.

On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Gompertz held an enquiry at the Magistracy touching the death of Leung Leung Hing, a sh off in the employment of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co. at East Point. An attempt was apparently made to remove the body from the colony without a permit, and in case there might have been any play it was brought back for investigation. Dr. Atkinson deposed to making a post mortem of the body on the 1st instant and as he was uncertain as to the cause of death he forwarded the contents of the stomach to the Government Analyst (Mr. F. Browne) in a sealed jar.—Mr. Browne, who analysed the contents of the stomach, said he found traces of opium in considerable quantities, sufficient in his opinion to cause death.—Lo Cheung Sun, assistant to Mr. Ho Tung (compradore to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) said that on the morning of the 3rd November a servant of deceased reported to them that deceased had died suddenly. They immediately examined his accounts and found defalcations to the extent of \$12,000 odd. The only explanation he could give was that deceased got rid of the money by gambling in the Wai Sing lottery. Deceased should have delivered up certain accounts on the 1st December. He knew that deceased was an opium smoker but he did not know whether he ate or drank opium.—The Chinese caretaker at the Mortuary and Sergeant Murison also gave evidence. The enquiry was adjourned.

The cases of communicable disease reported last week were one of diphtheria and one (fatal) of bubonic plague.

At the offices of the Public Works Department on Monday afternoon, Inland Lot No. 1566 situate in Queen's Road East near the Tai Wong Temple, was sold by public auction to Mr. Chan Hing Tsang for \$2,450, the upset price being \$1,440. The annual rent is \$14. The lot contains 960 square feet.

Going from home for the news we find the following paragraph in the *Singapore Free Press* of the 11th inst.:—On board Messrs. Apcar & Co.'s steamer *Lightning* at Tanjong Pagar wharf is a batch of six young men who have just passed out of the Armenian College at Calcutta for employment in the General Post Office at Hongkong.

On Wednesday a Chinese constable seized 32 revolvers, 3,200 rounds of revolver ammunition, and 800 boxes of percussion caps, which he found in a sampan. The master of the boat appeared before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on Thursday and was fined \$100, or three months' imprisonment, for being in illegal possession of the arms, and a similar sentence was inflicted for being in illegal possession of the ammunition—both sentences to run concurrently.

In the harlequinade at the last pantomime some amusement was caused by 'Poor Peter,' a dachshund that was put through the sausage machine. Poor Peter has met his end at last, not by means of a sausage machine, but by being stung by hornets. He was walking round by Magazine Gap when he disturbed a nest of the insects, and was stung so severely that he died a few hours afterwards, much to the sorrow of his messmates. The gentleman whom he was accompanying at the time of the occurrence had to run in order to escape the swarm. The matter was reported to the authorities and the nest was destroyed, 'Poor Peter's' master, Mr. Philpott, is at present in England, and will no doubt receive the intelligence of the loss of his pet with much regret.

At the Magistracy on Wednesday afternoon before Mr. Gompertz (Acting Police Magistrate) an enquiry was held touching the death of Cheng Fat, who was found dead at Tai Hang village and whose body was received into the Mortuary on the 30th November. On deceased's being missed a search was made and the body was found on the hillside. Opium poisoning was supposed to be the cause of death. Dr. Atkinson and Mr. F. Browne (Government Analyst) gave evidence, the first as to a post mortem and the other as to an examination of the contents of the stomach of deceased. Mr. Browne said he found traces of opium, there being in his opinion more than sufficient to account for death.—A verdict to the effect that death was due to opium poisoning was returned.

The annual installation meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1165, was held on Saturday evening, when Bro. Francis Clark was installed as Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, the ceremony being conducted by the R.W. District Grand Master, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., assisted by the officers of the District Grand Lodge. Right Wor. Bro. H.E. Sir Henry Blake, D.G.M. of Jamaica, honoured the Lodge with his presence. Wor. Bro. Clark, having been placed in the chair, invested his officers as follows:—I.P.M., W. Bro. Shelton Hooper; S.W., Bro. E. L. C. Berger; J.W., Bro. A. H. Bottenheim; Treasurer, Bro. E. H. Hinds; Secretary, Bro. W. H. Wickham; S.D., Bro. P. G. Anderson; J.D., Bro. A. W. Bewley; Dir. of Ceremonies, Bro. Viscount Suidale; Organist, Bro. A. G. Ward; Steward, Bro. C. D. Melbourne; I.G., Bro. R. W. Castle; Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grimble. After the closing of the Lodge the brethren sat down to a banquet, when the usual loyal and masonic toasts were proposed. During the banquet a telegram of congratulation was received from Wor. Bro. Edwards, P.M., sent from Banyu-wanji, Java. The toasts were interspersed with several songs, amongst which was "The absent minded beggar," given by Wor. Bro. G. P. Lamment, the words having been set to music by Bro. A. G. Ward. A sum of \$240 was collected for the Widows and Orphans (Transvaal Fund). By kind permission of Major Morris and Officers the Band of the Royal Welch Fusiliers was in attendance and played selections during the banquet.

### COMMERCIAL.

#### TEA.

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

|                        | 1899-1900  | 1898-99    |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
|                        | lbs.       | lbs.       |
| Hankow and Shanghai... | 9,514,030  | 10,608,322 |
| Amoy.....              | 409,704    | 681,252    |
| Foochow .....          | 15,487,395 | 12,497,524 |
| Canton .....           | 5,171,290  | 4,229,559  |
|                        | 30,612,383 | 28,202,057 |

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

|               | 1899-1900  | 1898-99    |
|---------------|------------|------------|
|               | lbs.       | lbs.       |
| Shanghai..... | 1,222,849  | 1,132,577  |
| Amoy .....    | 11,408,072 | 10,442,812 |
| Foochow ..... | 7,652,225  | 5,99,849   |
|               | 20,283,146 | 17,510,238 |

#### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

|                | 1899-1900  | 1898-99    |
|----------------|------------|------------|
|                | lbs.       | lbs.       |
| Yokohama ..... | 24,863,295 | 23,738,762 |
| Kobe.....      | 13,427,117 | 13,112,839 |
|                | 38,291,412 | 36,851,601 |

#### SILK.

CANTON, 22nd December.—Tsatlees.—A few bales of No. 1 are said to have been placed at \$920. Re-reels.—No sales are reported and no offers are obtainable. Filatures.—Owing to the firm attitude maintained by re-ellers, the demand for this class has fallen off considerably. Our prices rule still \$25/35 over Lyons values and the fortnight's settlements for Lyons are confined to about 400 bales. From prices paid we quote:—\$1,220 for Kai Lun Cheong 9/11, \$1,180 for Min King Lun 11/13 and Ying Cheong 10/12, \$1,160 for Po Lun Sang 10/12, \$1,175 for Kwong King Loong 10/12, \$1,130 for S.ey Wo Cheong 10/12, \$1,600/080 for Hing Lun and Quan Hing 11/13 and 13/15. Short-reels.—Have been in moderate demand, but continue to rule very high. From prices paid we quote:—\$1,200 for Han King Sing, Kwong Yuen On, and Min King Lun 14/16, \$1,180 for Po King Cheong 14/16, \$1,170/1,160 for King Lun Tai, Kwong Lun On, Tai King Lun, and Kwong Lun Hing 14/16. Waste.—Almost nothing has been done, and prices are nominal. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 2/- and Fcs. 2.53 per Dollar:—

SHANGHAI, 16th December.—(From Messrs A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular):—The Home markets are firm, Blue Elephants are quoted at 14/9 in London and Gold Killings at Fcs. 36 in Lyons. Raw Silk.—There is very little doing. The rise in Exchange has put a stop to business. Yellow Silk.—About 100 bales have changed hands. Market a little weaker. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, December 7th to 15th, are: 1,439 bales White, 899 bales Yellow and 3,304 bales Wild Silk. Re-Reels And Hand Filatures.—Nothing doing. Steam Filatures.—About 60 bales have been done. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 3,457 bales to America, 3,478, bales to the Continent, 52 bales to London, and 16 bales to various ports. Wild Silk.—Market weak. Arrivals reported are on a large scale. Waste Silk.—Quiet. The market shows signs of weakness.

|                                 | lis. per pol. |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Tayssam—                        |               |
| White Kahing Gold Lion 1 .....  | 500           |
| Yellow Silk.—                   |               |
| Meeyang No. 1 .....             | 355,357       |
| No. 2 .....                     | 325           |
| Yellow Silk.—                   |               |
| Szechuen 1 .....                | 265           |
| Steam Filatures—                |               |
| Worm & Leaf, 13/15 Den. 1 ..... | 1,000         |
| Tiger Chop, 13/15 Den. 1 .....  | 1,000         |

#### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—The market continues firm.—Quotations for Formosa are \$84.50 to \$85.00 sales 500 piculs.

#### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—The market is lower and prices continue to decline. Quotations are:

|                            |                  |     |
|----------------------------|------------------|-----|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White... | \$8.40 to \$8.45 | cl. |
| do. " 2, White...          | 7.70 to 7.75     | "   |
| Shekloong, No. 1, Brown... | 5.55 to 5.60     | "   |
| do. " 2, Brown...          | 5.40 to 5.45     | "   |



Swatow, No. 1, White... 8.20 to 8.25 pcl.  
do. " 1, White... 7.40 " 4.45 "  
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 5.40 " 5.45 "  
do. " 2, Brown... 5.30 " 6.33 "  
Fuchow Sugar Candy... 12.10 " 12.15 "  
S. K. loong " " 11.10 " 11.11 "

### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Idomeneus*, sailed on the 12th December. For London:—1,040 boxes tea 21,840 lbs. Congou, 300 boxes tea 6,300 lbs. So., Capor, 2,874 tea particulars unknown, 400 casks and 1,300 cases preserves, 110 cases indigo, 50 cases palm leaf fans, 89 cases blackwoodware, 162 cases Chinaware, 50 cases cigars, 5 cases essential oil, 5 cases woodware, 5 cases feathers, 2 cases silks, 100 bales waste silk, 1,688 bales hemp, 2 bales canes, 65 rolls matting, 26 pieces sundries, and 576 pieces bronze cannons. For London option Liverpool:—749 bales hemp. For London option Manchester:—200 casks waste silk. For London option Hamburg:—200 casks and 250 cases ginger, 100 bales galangal, and 100 bales Chinaware. For Manchester:—32 cases cigars. For Glasgow:—6 cases blackwoodware.

Per German steamer *Konig Albert*, sailed on the 13th December. For Singapore:—46 bags coffee and 5 cases wine. For Colombo:—5,160 bags flour, 50 bags sugar, 463 bags green peas, 54 rolls matting, and 1 case cigars. For Suez:—20 packages tea and 3 cases sundries. For Beyrouth:—5 boxes cassia. For Smyrna:—250 packages tea. For Odessa:—300 boxes cassia. For Naples:—6 cases cigars. For Genoa:—226 bales raw silk, 200 bales waste silk, 9 cases piece effects and 2 bags rice. For Antwerp:—212 bales bamboo scraps, 185 bales feathers, 69 bales rattan core, 31 bales leaf tobacco, 6 cases cigars, 5 cases Chinaware, and 3 cases sundries. For Antwerp and/or Hamburg:—160 bales feathers, 40 bales canes. For Amsterdam:—213 rolls matting, 25 cases Chinaware, 14 packages tea, and 10 cases cumquats. For Amsterdam and/or Rotterdam:—43 cases preserves. For Rotterdam:—50 cases cassia, 344 chests tea, 9 cases cigars, and 2 cases sundries. For Stockholm:—300 packages tea. For Bremerhaven:—10 packages hats. For Bremen:—10 boxes preserves, 33 rolls matting, 5 boxes ginger, 5 cases sundries, 3 cases cigars, and 1 case paper. For Buenos Ayres:—1 box silk piece goods. For Hamburg:—913 bales feathers, 500 boxes cassia, lignea, 41 boxes tea, 296 chests tea, 31 rolls matting, 22 chests tea, and 4 cases cigars. For London and/or Hamburg:—40 boxes cassia.

### OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—Bengal.—The market has ruled steady and prices have declined, closing at \$917½ for New Patna and \$95 for New Benares.

Malwa.—There has been very little doing in this drug, and quotations are unchanged, following being the current figures:—

New \$890 with all c. of — to — catty.  
Old \$890 " " " " " "

Persian.—Very little business has passed during the period. Quotations are unaltered, closing at \$82½ for Oily and \$650 to \$810 for Paper-wrapped.

Today's stocks are estimated as follows:—

New Patna ..... 436 chests.  
New Benares ..... 150 "  
Malwa ..... 507 "  
Persian ..... 1482 "

### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

| DATE.  | PATNA. |      | BENARES. |      | MALWA. |      |
|--------|--------|------|----------|------|--------|------|
|        | New.   | Old. | New.     | Old. | New.   | Old. |
| 1899.  | \$     | \$   | \$       | \$   | \$     | \$   |
| Dec 16 | 925    | —    | 912½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 17 | 917½   | —    | 907½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 18 | 917½   | —    | 907½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 19 | 917½   | —    | 907½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 20 | 917½   | —    | 907½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 21 | 917½   | —    | 907½     | —    | 890    | 890  |
| Dec 22 | 917½   | —    | 905      | —    | 890    | 890  |

### COTTON.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—Moderate business has passed in superior qualities at a decline of ½ Stock, about 400 bales.

Bombay... .. 21.50 to 22.50 poul.  
Kurrachee " " " " " "

Bengal (New). Rangoon, } 22.50 to 23.00 poul.  
and Dacca " " " " " "  
Shanghai and Japanese, ... 25.0 to 26.50 "  
Tungchow and Ningbo, ... 26.50 to 27.00 "  
Ma ras (Best) " " " " " "  
Sales: 88 bales Bengal (Rangoon, new);  
Dacca.

### RICE.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—The demand from Canton continues a further advance in prices has taken place. Quotations are:—

S.igon. Ordinary.....\$2.95 to 3.00  
" Round, Good quality ..... 3.80 to 3.85  
" Long ..... 3.50 to 3.55  
Siam, Field, well cleaned, No 2 ... 3.3 to 3.35  
" Garden " No 1 ... 3.55 to 3.60  
" White ..... 3.80 to 3.85  
" Line Cargo..... 4.15 to 4.20

### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*:—600 bales No. 10 at \$81 to \$88, 700 bales No. 12 at \$80 to \$88, 200 bales No. 16 at \$85 to \$97, 1,150 bales No. 20 at \$93 to \$104. *Japanese Yarn*:—50 bales No. 10 at \$82, 50 bales No. 12 at \$81, 100 bales No. 16 at \$96 to \$97, 350 bales No. 20 at \$94 to \$103.50. *Grey Shirtings*:—3,600 pieces Green Seal at \$2.90, 300 pieces 8½ lbs. Green Seal at \$2.85, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Ea le at \$2.25, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.45. *White Shirtings*:—20 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.75, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.85, 300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$7.00, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.80, 500 pieces chop O at \$4.80, 500 pieces X X X at \$6.00. *T. Cloths*:—600 pieces 8 lbs. V V at \$3.27½, 600 pieces X X at \$3.32½. *White Irishes Fold*:—500 pieces N. 2 at \$1.25, 500 pieces \$3.95 at \$5.35.

SHANGHAI, 16th December.—(From Messrs. N. & L. Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report) Piece Goods.—Our Report this time covers an extra long interval, during which a considerable amount of business has been done one way and another. The bulk of it has certainly been in the shape of resales amongst the Natives, many of the holders beginning to get nervous at the long continuance of the drought in the Northern Provinces. The only thing that will save the situation now, it is said, is a heavy fall of snow, and the doubt of that occurring is the cause of many, if not most, of the resales that have taken place. The dealers being content with the fair profits their goods already show rather than run the risk of meeting with a reverse. In some cases, however, they have replaced their sales by goods to arrive, with which they have been accommodated by some Importers at a good deal under present home prices but these are now looked upon almost with despair. The position here is undoubtedly stronger and prices are distinctly higher both privately and at Auction, but individual transactions are not of the same magnitude that usually mark this period of the buying for Tientsin. There is a lull at the moment in the demand for Szechuen, but as it is reported that enormous profits were made there this year it is anticipated that the buying will soon commence again. Although the Hankow market is quiet a steady business is being done, and clearances all round are decidedly favourable. This is no doubt brought about by the desire of the Natives to invest their spare cash and take advantage of the present favourable exchange to pay for goods bought on a sterling basis, rates being 3 per cent. above the parity of Silver. There is more enquiry for Indian Yarns, but sales are restricted owing to the firmness of the large holders, prices current here being three to four times under replacing cost in Bombay. Japanese pinnings are fairly steady and Local Manufacturers appear more disposed to sell at about previous prices, no doubt on account of the weakness of native Cotton, which is now quoted Tls. 17.40 net.

### EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 22nd December.

ON GERMANY.—  
On demand ..... 200  
ON NEW YORK.—  
Bank Bills, on demand ..... 47½  
Credits, 60 days' sight ..... 48½  
ON BOMBAY.—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 144½  
Bank, on demand ..... 145  
ON CALCUTTA.—  
Telegraphic Transfer ..... 44½  
Bank, on demand ..... 145  
ON SHANGHAI.—  
Bank, at sight ..... 71½  
Private, 30 days' sight ..... 72½  
ON YOKOHAMA.—  
On demand ..... 44  
ON MANILA.—  
On demand ..... 2 ½ par  
ON SINGAPORE.—  
On demand ..... par.  
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate ..... 10.23  
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per its ..... 53.20

### JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—The market has ruled quieter during the week and business restricted. Rates, however, continue steady, to strong except in Banks and a few minor stocks which show a decline. A private meeting of Oliver and Queen Mine shareholders is advertised for the 27th instant.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been very dull and with sellers and no buyers the rate gradually fell to 34½ per cent. prem. The decline was assisted by a drop in the London rate to £58.10. Market closes quiet at quotation. Nationals continue on offer at \$29½ without finding buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Continue neglected with no sales to report.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong have changed hands at \$327½ and \$330 and Chinas at \$88, both closing steady at those rates.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found small buyers at \$31, but sellers at \$30½ rule the market at time of closing. In os have changed hands at \$82 and \$82½, closing steady at the latter rate. Douglasses with sales at \$52½ cash and \$53 for the settlement close with sellers at the latter rate. China Manillas continue steady, but without business. China Mutuals after small sales of £5 paid up at par have been done at \$4.15 and close with buyers at the latter rate and no sellers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars remain quite out of the market with no business to report. Luzons have found small buyers at quotation.

MINEING.—Pinnings continue very dull and out of favour with sellers at \$7 and very few sales. Preferences have changed hands at \$1.20 and further shares could probably be placed at the rate. Charbonnages and Queens continue neglected with no sales to report. Jebebus, Olivers, and Great Easterns have changed hands in small lots at quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue very quiet with no business; the rate, however, remains very steady at 525 per cent. premium, and buyers are unable to obtain shares under. Kowloon Wharves, which improved to \$87 after sales at \$85½ and \$86½, close firm at \$86½; on time sales have been effected at \$70 for March delivery. Wanchais unchanged and without business. Amoy Docks have been placed at \$21.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have been in good demand. A few shares have changed hands at \$114, \$115, and \$116, but at time of closing shares are obtainable at the last rate. Hotels remain unchanged, with business at \$119, and close with further buyers at that rate, whilst sales are reported for March at \$124. West Points show an improvement with sales at \$34½ and \$35, closing firm at the latter rate. Humphreys continue to change hands at \$91, closing with sellers.

COTTON MILLS.—The market continues very dull with no business to report. Quotations, with the exception of Hongkong, are taken from the last Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have been placed at \$21 and \$30½. Watsons at \$15½. Electrics at \$10, and Ices at \$130. Other stocks under this heading without any business to report.



Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                        | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.           |
|---------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| Banks—                          |          |                       |
| Hongkong & Shanghai...          | \$125    | \$40 p. ct. prem., =  |
| China & Japan, ord.             | \$4      | \$1.                  |
| Do. deferred                    | \$1      | \$5 5s.               |
| Natl. Bank of China             |          |                       |
| B. Shares                       | \$8      | \$29½, sellers        |
| Four. Shares                    | \$8      | \$29½, sellers        |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.           | \$1      | nominal               |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.           | \$10     | \$14, buyers          |
| China Prov. L. & M.             | \$10     | \$9½, buyers          |
| China Sugar                     | \$100    | \$170, sellers        |
| Cotton Mills—                   |          |                       |
| Ewo                             | Tls. 100 | Tls. 5½               |
| International                   | Tls. 100 | Tls. 65               |
| Laou Kung Mow                   | Tls. 100 | Tls. 72½              |
| Soychee                         | Tls. 500 | Tls. 375              |
| Yahloong                        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 58, sellers      |
| Hongkong                        | \$100    | \$16, buyers          |
| Dairy Farm                      | \$6      | \$4½, ex div.         |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.             | \$25     | \$45, buyers          |
| Green Island Cement             | \$0      | \$26½, buyers         |
| H. & C. Bakery                  | \$50     | \$25.                 |
| Hongkong & C. Gas               | \$10     | \$127.                |
| Hongkong Electric               | \$10     | \$10, sellers         |
| H. H. L. Tramways               | \$100    | \$150, buyers         |
| Hongkong Hotel                  | \$50     | \$119, buyers         |
| Hongkong Ice                    | \$25     | \$130, sellers        |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.              | \$50     | \$57, sellers         |
| Hongkong Rope                   | \$50     | \$10, buyers          |
| H. & W. Dock                    | \$125    | \$525 p. ct. prem. =  |
| Insurance—                      |          | \$781½ sales          |
| Canton                          | \$50     | \$130, sellers        |
| China Fire                      | \$20     | \$88, sales & buyers  |
| China Traders'                  | \$25     | \$58, sellers         |
| Hongkong Fire                   | \$50     | \$327½, buyers        |
| North-China                     | \$25     | Tls. 185, sellers     |
| Straits                         | \$20     | \$2½, buyers          |
| Union                           | \$50     | \$235, sellers        |
| Yangtze                         | \$60     | \$110, sellers        |
| Land and Building—              |          |                       |
| Hongkong Land Inv.              | \$50     | \$16, sellers         |
| Humphreys Estate                | \$10     | \$9½.                 |
| Kowloon Land & B.               | \$80     | \$28, sellers         |
| West Point Building             | \$50     | \$35, buyers          |
| Luzon Sugar                     | \$100    | \$47, sales & sellers |
| Mining—                         |          |                       |
| Charbonnages                    | Fcs 250  | \$300, buyer          |
| Gt. Estn. & C. donian           | \$       | 70 cts., buyers       |
| Do. Preference                  | \$1      | 0 cts., sellers       |
| Jelebu                          | \$       | \$12½, buyers         |
| Queen's Mines Ltd.              | 25c      | 15 cts., sales        |
| Oliver's Mines, A.              | \$5      | \$8.                  |
| Do. B.                          | \$4½     | \$6½, sellers         |
| Punjom                          | \$6      | \$7½, sellers         |
| Do. Preference                  | \$1      | \$120, buyers         |
| Raub                            | 15s. 10d | \$62, sellers         |
| New Amoy Dock                   | \$6½     | \$21, sales           |
| Steamship Coys.—                |          |                       |
| China and Manila                | \$50     | \$90, sellers         |
| China Mutual Pref.              | \$10     | \$9½, buyers          |
| China Ordinary                  | \$10     | \$9, buyers           |
| Do.                             | \$5      | \$41, buyers          |
| Douglas Steamship               | \$50     | \$58, sellers         |
| H. Canton and M.                | \$15     | \$30½, sellers        |
| Indo-China S. N.                | \$10     | \$82, buyers          |
| Shell Transport and Trading Co. | \$100    | \$240                 |
| Star Ferry                      | \$7½     | \$21, sellers         |
| Tebrau Planting Co.             | \$5      | \$5, sellers          |
| Do.                             | \$3      | \$3.                  |
| United Asbestos                 | \$2      | \$2                   |
| Do.                             | \$10     | \$10, nominal         |
| Wanchai Warehouse               | \$37½    | \$45, buyers          |
| Watson & Co., A. S.             | \$10     | \$15½, sellers        |

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 22nd December.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—Business has been chiefly done in Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf and Langkat Tobacco shares, although some attention was given to Cotton Mill shares. The Directors of the Shanghai Tug Boat Co. have declared a third interim dividend of 5 per cent. payable on the 20th current. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. A cash sale was made at 345 per cent. premium. Marine Insurance.—No business reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares changed hands at Tls. 61 for the 30th current, and for March and April at Tls. 66. There are sellers at the close. China Mutual S. N. Ordinary shares, with 25 paid up, were sold to Hongkong at 24.15.0. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in S. O. Farnham & Co. were sold at Tls. 230. Shanghai Engineering shares were placed at Tls. 140. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares after sales at Tls. 245 cash and Tls. 242/235 for December. Afterwards the market rallied and shares were placed at Tls. 242½ for December and Tls. 255 for March. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and God-

own shares were purchased from Hongkong at \$85½. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares changed hands at Tls. 80. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares were sold at Tls. 217½ and Tls. 215. Ewo Cotton Spinning and weaving Co., Ltd. Shares improved to Tls. 60, but the price was not maintained, sales having since been made at Tls. 50/55. International shares fell from Tls. 72 to Tls. 64 cash and Tls. 65 for the current, afterwards advancing to Tls. 55 cash. Laou-kung-mow shares declined Tls. 4 to Tls. 7½. Shanghai Ice shares were sold, Old at Tls. 28 and New at Tls. 27. New shares are wanted. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 55. Business was done in Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 300/290/30 cash, and 350/32½/335 for March. Loans.—Business was done in Debenture.—Shanghai Land 5½ per cent. at Tls. 95, Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. at Tls. 102, and Shanghai Langkat per cent at Tls. 102/10, plus the accrued interest in all cases.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai—\$345 per cent. pm. Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.—£1.0. Do. ordinary.—£5.5.0.

National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$20.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 55.00. Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—\$58.00. International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65.00. Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 72.50. Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 375.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, &amp; CO.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal. Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 210.00. Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company—\$85.00. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$781.25. S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 230.00. Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 100.0. Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 235.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$132.50. China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$87.00. China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$59.00. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$320.00. North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 190.00. Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—Nominal. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$233. Yangtze Insurance Assn., Ltd.—\$110.00.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$109.50. Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.—\$9.00. Shanghai Land Invest. Co. (fully paid)—Tls. 85.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$7.50. Punjom Mining Co., Ltd. pref. share.—\$1.30. Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$62.00. Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING.

China Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00. Do. ordinary, 2½ paid.—Tls. 30.00. Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 170.00. Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$50.50. Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$30.00. Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 60.50. Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 190.00. Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 300.00. Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$121.00. Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$48.00. Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 58.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 65.00. Central Stores, Ltd.—\$12.00. China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 32.50. Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$36.50. Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$55.00. Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 35.00. Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Nominal. Shanghai Gas Co.—\$215.00. Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00. Shanghai Ice Cold Storage & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 28.00. Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 3.00. Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 55.00. Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65.00. Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$18.00.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—The volume of business transacted during the past fortnight is small, and rates generally show a decline. From Saigon to Hongkong, there is at present no demand; to Java 38 cents per picul has been paid (one port North Coast), and more tonnage is wanted at 37 cents. Java to this 45 cents per picul is offered for wet sugar. Bangkok to Hongkong, 27½ and 32½ cents per picul. Moji to Hongkong, \$3.10 per ton can be obtained; to Singapore, last settlement was effected at \$3.50 per ton. Sailing vessel.—Hence to

rk, 10 enquiry; to Callao, a vessel of about, 800 tons is wanted, rate 22/6 per ton of 50 C.F.

There is one vessel disengaged in port registering 1,424 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.25 per ton.

Ulysses monthly, steamer, 2,282 tons, Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3.50 per ton.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 18 cents per picul.

Kongkong—German steamer, 862 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Taichong—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Fochow—British steamer, 1,253 tons, Saigon to ne port north coast Java, 35 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 37 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 37 cents per picul.

An Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 38 cents per picul.

Shansi—British steamer, 1,240 tons, two port north coast Java to Hongkong, 48 cents per picul.

Hainan—German steamer, 741 tons, Ho-lo to Yokohama, 45 cents per picul.

Peiyang—German steamer, 1,036 tons, monthly, 2/1 months, \$5,500 per month.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$9,00 per month.

Hainan—German steamer, 741 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5,500 per month.

SHANGHAI, 18th November (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since last writing on the 27th ult. large quantities of produce have arrived from the North, principally for New York, and the Northern ports being now closed for the winter steamers have only the Yangtze and local business to look to for support. Coastwise.—A steady trade continues from Yangtze rice ports to the South in quotations, while from Japan to this rate are somewhat easier, Moji to Shanghai having settlements at \$2.10 per ton coal. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; waste silk 47s. 6d.; tea 50s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; waste silk 47s. 6d.; tea 50s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Baltimore via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 57s. 6d.; waste silk 60s.; tea 62s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 67s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 57s. 6d.; waste silk 60s.; tea 62s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 50s.; waste silk 52s. 6d.; tea 55s.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 45s.; waste silk 47s. 6d.; tea 50s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 40s. net, waste silk 4 s. 6d. net, tea 45s. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 4 s. net, waste silk 42s. 6d. net, tea 45s. net; Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 4 s. net, waste silk 42s. 6d. net, tea 45s. net 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 20s. nominal. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cent per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 3 s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 30s. for tea, all net. Boston via Suez, 37s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 42s. 6d. for tea, all net. Philadelphia via Suez, 37s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 4 s. 6d. for tea, all net. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$2.10 per ton coal; Nagasaki to Kobe, to Nagasaki, to Swatow, to Amoy, to Whampoa, and to Canton all closed; Wuhu and Chi-kiang to Canton, 24 cands.; to Amoy, 22 cands.; to Swatow, 22 cands.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Coromandel (str.), Patroclus (str.), Diomed (str.), Antenor (str.), Socotra (str.), Benlarig (str.).

For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—Tantalus (str.), Ulysses (str.).

For BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—Silesia (str.), Oceanien (str.), Inaba Maru (str.), Awa Maru (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Wittenberg (str.), Sarnia (str.), Ambria (str.), Holsatia (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—Algoa (str.), Nippon Maru (str.), Doric (str.).

For SA. DIEGO VIA KOBE.—Strathgyle (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).

For VICTORIA, B.C.—VI. SHANGHAI.—Saint Irene (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—Mammothshire (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Catania (str.), Mary L. Cushing, Asama (str.), Afridi (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Futami Maru (str.).



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

December—

## ARRIVALS.

16, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.  
 16, Szechuen, British str., from Canton.  
 16, Amara, British str., from Canton.  
 16, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 16, Doric, British str., from San Francisco.  
 16, Else, German str., from Bangkok.  
 16, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.  
 16, Takao Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.  
 16, Yarra, French str., from Shanghai.  
 16, Fausang, British str., from Canton.  
 17, Singan, British str., from Canton.  
 17, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.  
 17, Argi, British str., from Kutchinotsu.  
 17, Chingtu, British str., from Moji.  
 17, Diamante, British str., from Manila.  
 17, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.  
 17, Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from Portland.  
 17, Propontis, British str., from Singapore.  
 17, Petrarch, German str., from Java.  
 17, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 17, Siam, Danish str., from Antwerp.  
 17, Antenor, British str., from Liverpool.  
 18, Shansi, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 18, Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.  
 18, Dr. Hans J. Kier, Norw. str., from Swatow.  
 18, Legaspi, Spanish str., from Manila.  
 18, Phra Chom Klao, Brit. str., from Bangkok.  
 18, Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.  
 18, Feiching, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 18, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.  
 18, Kwangse, British str., from Taku.  
 18, Silesia, German str., from Hamburg.  
 18, Wittenberg, German str., from Hamburg.  
 18, Peacock, British gunboat, from Manila.  
 18, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 18, Waterwitch, British str., from Foochow.  
 19, Caldonien, French str., from Marseilles.  
 19, Chiyoda Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.  
 19, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.  
 19, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.  
 19, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.  
 19, Wosang, British str., from Canton.  
 19, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.  
 19, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.  
 19, Ichang, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 19, White Hall, British str., from Cardiff.  
 19, Kweiyang, British str., from Java.  
 19, Formosa, British str., from Anping.  
 20, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 20, Anging, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 20, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 20, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.  
 20, Suma, Japanese cruiser, from Amoy.  
 20, Deuterios, German str., from Saigon.  
 20, Loyal, German str., from Hongay.  
 20, Taifu, German str., from Saigon.  
 20, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 20, Undaunted, British cruiser, from Manila.  
 20, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Australia.  
 21, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.  
 21, Bormida, Italian str., from Bombay.  
 21, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 21, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.  
 21, Taiyuan, British str., from Adelaide.  
 21, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.  
 21, Peiyang, German str., from Haiphong.  
 21, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.  
 21, Tailee, German str., from Mauritius.  
 21, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from K'notzu.  
 21, Cowrie, British str., from Batoum.  
 21, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.  
 21, Decima, German str., from Moji.  
 21, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.  
 21, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 21, Kwongping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.  
 21, Prosper, Norwegian str., from Swatow.  
 21, Tientsin, British str., from Tientsin.  
 21, Leon, French str., from Kwongchow.  
 21, Poochow, British str., from Canton.  
 22, Woosung, British str., from Canton.  
 22, Kinsang, British str., from Canton.  
 22, Hailong, British str., from Swatow.  
 22, Hsinchi, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 22, Kashing, British str., from Chefoo.  
 22, Pakhoi, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 22, Tatogami Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.

December— DEPARTURES.

15, Formosa, British str., for Taiwanfoo.  
 16, Peiyang, German str., for Haiphong.  
 16, Hoihao, French str., for Pakhoi.  
 16, Chunsang, British str., for Chinkiang.

16, Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.  
 16, Vindobona, Austrian str., for Bombay.  
 16, Gisela, Austrian str., for Yokohama.  
 16, Woosung, British str., for Canton.  
 16, Szechuen, British str., for Ningpo.  
 16, Haimun, British str., for Amoy.  
 16, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 16, Bombay, British str., for Shanghai.  
 17, Konigsberg, German str., for Hamburg.  
 17, Mongkut, British str., for Swatow.  
 17, Tritos, German str., for Saigon.  
 17, M. Jebson, German str., for Haiphong.  
 17, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.  
 17, Amara, British str., for Foochow.  
 17, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.  
 17, Fausang, British str., for Hongay.  
 17, Swatow, German str., for Hoihow.  
 18, Yarra, French str., for Europe.  
 18, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.  
 18, Japan, British str., for Canton.  
 18, Wuhu, British str., for Canton.  
 18, Glenloch, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18, Feiching, Chinese str., for Swatow.  
 18, Hue, French str., for Hoihow.  
 18, Diamante, British str., for Manila.  
 18, Descartes, French str., for K'angchow.  
 19, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 19, Quarta, German str., for Kobe.  
 19, Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
 19, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.  
 19, Wingsang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19, Shansi, British str., for Canton.  
 19, Germania, German str., for Singapore.  
 19, Caldonien, French str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Empress of Japan, Brit. str., for Vancouver.  
 20, Ichang, British str., for Canton.  
 20, Antenor, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.  
 20, Etna, Italian cruiser, for Singapore.  
 20, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
 20, White Hall, British str., for Weihaiwei.  
 20, Chingtu, British str., for Sydney.  
 21, Kweiyang, British str., for Amoy.  
 21, Dr. H. J. Kier, Norw. str., for Chinkiang.  
 21, Kong Beur, British str., for Saigon.  
 21, Foochow, British str., for Wuhu.  
 21, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.  
 21, Wittenberg, German str., for Kiaochau.  
 21, Else, German str., for Bangkok.  
 21, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
 21, China, Amer. str., for San Francisco.  
 21, Taisang, British str., for Canton.  
 21, Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.  
 21, Wosang, British str., for Amoy.  
 21, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.  
 21, Legaspi, Spanish str., for Manila.  
 21, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.  
 21, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.  
 21, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.  
 21, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 21, Taishun, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 21, Ningpo, British str., for Wuhu.  
 21, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 21, Tientsin, British str., for Canton.  
 21, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
 22, Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.  
 22, Hating, French str., for Haiphong.  
 22, Prosper, Norw. str., for Montauk Bay.  
 22, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.  
 22, Siam, Danish str., for Tientsin.  
 22, Takao Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.  
 22, Devawongse, British str., for Bangkok.  
 22, Chiyoda Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.  
 22, Cowrie, British str., for Yokohama.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Bombay*, from London, for Hongkong.  
 Miss Stuart, Miss MacGregor, Rev. W. MacGregor, Miss Jones, Rev. A. G. Johnson, Miss Koo, Miss Lazenby, Messrs. H. T. Hammond and L. A. Genge, Miss Keith, Lieut. Colonel Hon. R. H. and Mrs. Bertie, for Shanghai.  
 Miss Middleton, Mrs. MacKenzie, Lieut. R. H. Bray, for Kobe. Mrs. Brookhurst and 2 children; for Yokohama, Mrs. Libeaud, and Miss Furler.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. Chester M. Knepper, Lt. Comdr. A. B. Canaga, U.S.N., Mrs. J. W. Hannay, Miss Hannay, Mrs. F. E. Green, Mr. Milo Hoadley, Dr. Ottofy, Mr. and Mrs. Perkins, Messrs. S. Dero, Ireland, F. G. Carpenter, Mr. M. and Mrs. Gearin and Miss Gearin, Mrs. Doyle, Mr. A. J. Finlay, Miss Finlay, Dr. Caldwell, Messrs. W. A. Johnson, S. F. Hutton, D. Marriott, D. Thorpe, R. Miller, Capt. Wildschut, Mr. and Mrs. Rohman, Col. and Mrs.

Edge, Misses Shaw and Eckfeldt, Mr. Vickers, Mr. and Mrs. Kunkel, Messrs. M. Baker, Pratt, A. de Liarge, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. I. D. Green, Mrs. Davidson, Mrs. Wells, Misses Playton and Haynes, Mr. E. L. and Mrs. Felley, Miss McKinnon, Mrs. L. Hunt, Messrs. Arbenz, Ziervogel, Kemna, N. Ramsay, D. C. Campbell and Mrs. Hunt's child and amah.

Per *Yarra*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Messrs. E. J. Meugens, Rassumussen, Tyrus Smith, Pontham, Brookman, Wessemberger, John Brown, Emil Hauser, Sasson Ruben, and Paul de Pamenberg; from Yokohama, Messrs. G. Modigliani, James C. Sloan, and Moffat; from Nagasaki, Messrs. D. Hannam, M. Stone, Wadman, and A. Gow.

Per *Lightning* from Calcutta, &c., Mrs. Gasper, Misses Greene, English and Sellars, Messrs. I. Gregory, Oakley, Manork, Joseph, Catobick, Jordan, Gregory and Owen and 490 Chinese.

Per *Caledonia*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Messrs. Juan Armalch, Clements, Wood, Hordonin, Raynold, Amaral, Ah Meng, and Chane Akoo; from Colombo, Père Monnier, Messrs. Wong Sen, Cham Choi, and Gun Jam; from Singapore, Messrs. G. Simpson, Waa Meng Chye, G. Wilson, Mme. Welber, Messrs. Famille Moss and Galbino Ribeiro Cabral; from Saigon, Capt. Cattuneto and Miss Ito; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Messrs. Jansen, Famille Korostov, Wordsworth Pools, Mr. and Mrs. Sansine, Père Devred, Mr. Eyabiert, Sours Claire, Gertrude, Jeanne, Augustine, Julia, Adèle, Louise, Jos. Blanche, Blanche, Germaine, Françoise, Messrs. Famille Angeleni, Rama, and Emile Pralot; from Singapore, Messrs. Cosmo Papaglin, Arthur, Eskail; for Nagasaki, from Marseilles, Lieut. and Mrs. Schwanok, Lieut. Atlerantoff, Vice-Admiral Alexieff and Père J. Innokenti; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Naphtaly; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Mr. Catagne; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. Lepzelier, Mons. Bard, Mr. Blanc, Père Casselin and Mr. Moyers; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Morborg; from Singapore, Mr. Cumming and Mme. Marchand.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Australian Ports, Messrs. O'Donner, McCaughin, Marshall, R. Onishi, Mrs. C. Philips, Mrs. Whaley, Mr. Maide, Mrs. Macleod and 2 children, Ensign Hurley, U.S.N.

Per *Coromandel*, from Yokohama, for London, Mr. H. W. Wilkens; from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Mrs. A. Smith, Mr. J. Kusaka, Rev. M. Fernandes, Messrs. M. Heckel, Wyon, and L. J. de Silva; for Singapore, Mr. P. F. Wickham; for Marseilles, Mr. A. P. Dunstan; for London, Miss Dunthoit, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald.

Per *Kweiyang*, from Tientsin, &c., Mr. Morris.

## DEPARTED.

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